

Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

Vol. 20

December, 1915

No. 10

Universities and Librarians*

W. N. C. Carlton, L. H. D., librarian, Newberry library, Chicago

My subject is naturally suggested by our place of meeting. In a most unusual way Urbana includes and exhibits all the institutions and activities of fundamental interest and importance to the thoughtful librarian. It is the seat of a great and progressive university whose fame is world-wide. The university possesses a library whose collections in many branches of learning are notable for strength and intrinsic value, and the financial provision for their continuance and extension appears to be most generous. The printed contributions to the literature of their several specialties made by the members of the distinguished faculty of the university show that the resources of the library are under constant requisition and that inspiring and practical use is being made of them. And, finally, as an organic part of the university, there is the Library school, where, upon the broad and proper basis of an academic course in the humanities, a two year period of study and practice in the technicalities of library economy is imposed. Bearing in mind these major facts as well as a host of supporting minor facts which it would be impossible even to enumerate here, I believe I am correct in saying that there are very few places where such an admirable synthesis exists. It affords just grounds for present congratulation and satisfaction to all who have directly contributed to this result and to the great State of Illinois whose

citizens have so liberally provided the material means to bring it about.

But impressive as this situation is, it is even more impressive for what it suggests of possible future achievement and influence, especially in the sphere of library activity. And it is to some of those future possibilities, both here and elsewhere, that my mind naturally and by preference inclines at this moment. For on an occasion such as this, it is a much more agreeable as well as safer exercise to depict visions and dreams of the future than to chronicle the past or to denounce or even praise the present. There is nothing duller than the ancient history of a modern library, and as for our annual reports of present progress, they almost form in themselves a veritable literature of dullness. So I turn with relief to the future and venture to lay before you a few of my hopes for our particular vocation which I think ought to derive chiefly from a university environment and to find their chiefest encouragement and support within it.

The university environment is historically the original source of most of the methods, purposes, ideas, and ideals with which the librarian must perforce concern himself. Without going farther back than the thirteenth century, or further afield than Oxford and Cambridge, we may easily trace in the medieval university evidence that the problems and main features of library economy and administration were very similar to those of our own today. At Oxford, in 1367, the University library was housed in a room over the Congregation house. The room was scarcely larger than the average class room of today, and light-

*Address before Illinois library association, November 4, 1915, University of Illinois.

ed by seven windows on each side. Between some, if not all, of the windows, bookcases stood at right angles to the wall, forming little alcoves fit for the quiet pursuit of knowledge. In each alcove was a bench for readers to sit upon. Here came the flower of Oxford scholarship to study, at any time after eight in the morning. Every student was welcomed provided he did not enter in wet clothing, or bring in ink, or a knife, or a dagger. There they sat, "busily making extracts in pencil, or with styles on their tablets, amid a silence broken only by the crackle of vellum leaves, and the rattle of a chain." But the room was often overcrowded and "throngs of visitors" sometimes disturbed the readers. Then, as now, liberal regulations were abused. Students soiled and damaged the books. Even mature scholars had to make solemn oath, in the presence of the Chancellor, to use the books properly, to make no erasures or blots, or otherwise spoil the precious writing. Benefactors were well greeted, and the University showed every reasonable sign of its gratitude. It posted up donors' names in the library itself, submitted each gift to congregation three days after receiving it, and within twelve days later had it securely chained up on its appropriate shelf. A study of the old catalogs also shows that in libraries of considerable extent the number of duplicates was very large. At Oxford and Cambridge the University libraries proper were for reference; the libraries of the several colleges were for both reference and lending use. The special privileges allowed the Fellows of the Colleges are amusingly reminiscent of those permitted to members of our modern faculties. A register of loans was carefully maintained and elaborate precautions taken for following the books up. Any Fellow of Oriel college neglecting or refusing to restore his books forfeited for a year his right to borrow, and if he still failed to restore the borrowed volume or pay the full value before the following Christmas, he was deprived

of his Fellowship.* The responsible officials of the libraries were the wardens, masters, and teachers in the colleges. So you see, as indeed you already knew, history amply illustrates the association of library economy with the university.

I desire to see library progress and development guided more and more by influences originating in the academic world, that is, chiefly in our institutions of higher learning. I hope there will be a steadily increasing community of interest and connection between scholars and librarians. I trust that in due time the old type of scholar-librarian will reappear, metamorphosed doubtless in order to meet the conditions of a new age and time, but still essentially the scholar of the generations preceding ours. This type, of course, has never entirely passed away, but it does not at present prevail. I desire to see it prevail and dominate all other types. And my belief is that if it is ever to come into its own again, the universities and colleges must play the largest part in making public opinion understand and welcome it, must contribute largely to its cultivation, and must be its most constant supporters when again revived. That is substantially the only thesis I have to offer today. Those of you who know me or who have heard me speak before, will at once recognize that Mr Dick has gotten King Charles' head into his petition again. One cannot conceal a hobby however hard he may try.

Accordingly, it is my hope that training and preparation for librarianship will more and more be conducted under university direction and in ever closer association with the library activities of a university. The isolated library school and the library apprentice class, necessary as they have been and still are to meet pressing immediate needs, should eventually become things of the past. Universities should be just as much the cradles and nurseries of li-

*Ernest A. Savage: Old English libraries, chapters VI-VIII.

brarians as they are of teachers, clergymen, physicians, and lawyers. If the university prepares and equips men and women for positions as principals of city high schools and for the headship of the physics, chemistry, history, mathematics, ancient or modern language departments of such schools, it ought also to prepare the librarian and the chief assistants of the municipal library. We are rapidly passing out of the pioneer period, the self-taught stage of American librarianship. In the future we shall turn increasingly to the universities for the men and women best qualified to meet the ever widening and always exacting demands made upon our libraries.

The training offered the future librarian should be markedly different in many respects from that which obtains today in the various schools of instruction. On general principles, I am very reluctant to see the precious four-year academic course further invaded by purely vocational or technical activities. But in the case of the intending librarian I am inclined to think a way should be found to push back into the undergraduate period a large part of what now constitutes the one or two-year special library course. It certainly ought not to be necessary for a student who has graduated from college to take a course in elementary bibliography or the history of libraries as a part of his or her graduate training. The history of libraries might surely, with entire propriety, form part of the work or reading connected with undergraduate courses dealing with the literary and social history of Greece, Rome, and the modern European nations. Instruction in the elementary bibliography of his subject should be given the student as a natural and integral part of every course of study, and this instruction should be given by his professors and instructors,—not by the library attachés. I know that this opinion may sound heterodox to some of you, but I believe it to be a sound one. Our friends on the faculties have shifted this task of bibliographical in-

struction over to the librarians because it is a side of their work for which many of them have a profound distaste. They believe that their time and mental energy should be expended on higher things, and that they should be exempt from such dull drudgery as bibliography. Now, while I do not blame them much for entertaining such sentiments, I nevertheless decline to admit that because they will not do their duty in this respect we ought meekly to assume it. It is from his academic instructors, and not from us that the student should necessarily learn the nature and contents of and how to use such bibliographical instruments as the British Museum catalog, the International catalog of scientific literature, the great German *Jahresberichte*, the works of Dahlmann-Waitz, Pott, Gröber, Gross, Lanson and other authorities in the sphere of special bibliography.

Again, I fancy it might be found feasible to shift the so-called "practice work" now given in the library schools into a period of summer service and instruction in the university libraries. In a way, elementary reference work, book selection, order, accession, and shelf routine, exchanges and loans, and other technical features, roughly correspond to the laboratory work of the undergraduate student in chemistry, physics, or biology. The budding librarian would then, upon graduation from college, be ready for two or three years of really advanced work and training comparable in breadth, discipline, constructiveness and occupational relevance to that received by the law, medical, and advanced engineering students, or those intending to prepare themselves for positions as university instructors.

I shall not attempt to outline in full detail what this future advanced training should be; that is a matter which will doubtless engage many minds and many men through a long series of years. The final outcome will in all probability be largely influenced by the particular demands which society

makes upon the libraries during the next decade or two; and also by the experience accumulated by our libraries in dealing with the educational and literary needs of their respective communities and with the administrative problems which the increasing size and importance of their collections will present.

But in that future graduate course some things ought to be included which are not there now, if American librarianship is to grow and develop in breadth, power, and accomplishment. In my judgment this course should in many respects parallel that of the candidates for doctors' degrees in history, literature, language, philosophy, etc. One or more of these subjects should be studied intensively; the most approved methods of investigating and utilizing their respective literatures and documents should be learned and practiced; the examination and criticism of all forms of original material should be made familiar to the student; and the encyclopaedia and methodology of five or six major subjects should be thoroughly mastered. It goes without saying that an accurate and rapid reading knowledge of at least one ancient and two modern languages is essential. With direct reference to the future vocation, special courses should be provided in such subjects as psychology, the history and theory of education, College and university administration, Laws and legislation relating to schools and libraries, municipal finance, the organization and administration of large libraries. The products of such a training would be men and women with well stored and disciplined minds, with educational foundations lasting, broad, human, and scholarly, and with a mastery of general principles and methods applicable to any type of library and to any scale of operation.

All this doubtless sounds very extravagant, nay, even grotesquely fantastic to many among you. But I can say with entire truthfulness that the need of such higher training and

knowledge has been proved over and over again in my experience, and I today regard it as indispensable in order adequately to fulfil the educational purposes and to perform the technical duties of all but the very smallest local libraries. Only the universities have the means and power to provide, to organize, and to administer such a course of special instruction.

Now it ought also to be apparent that the college and university libraries are the institutions which beyond question most need this highly trained type of men and women for their staffs. Their own needs, therefore, should stir them to positive action in explaining and giving publicity to this necessity and in securing the support of public opinion and their trustees in order to provide the means with which to meet the new requirements. For I think it will be agreed that present library conditions in the university world are not always as happy as they should be, as we should all genuinely like them to be. Some of the reasons for this unhappiness seem clear enough to me. One is that in some institutions the tremendous importance of the library is not fully recognized by the higher authorities and consequently adequate financial support is lacking. In such a case it is obviously the duty of the president to convince his trustees that, to quote the words of Dr Koopman, librarian of Brown university, "the college library is generally admitted to be the most important element in the students' academic training, and indispensable to the operation of all the rest." I am not sure that I should put the library ahead of the living voice and thought and personal stimulus of the teacher, but one has to be a bit extravagant in arguing for appropriations. But I am prepared to assert that a well equipped library is a fundamental necessity for both teacher and taught, and that wherever today you find a poor and ill-equipped college library, you will almost certainly find prevailing in the adjacent class rooms

a dry, inefficient, indifferent, and antiquated instruction.

Again, a particularly distressing situation arises where the president himself is unaware of the great importance and ever expanding needs of the library. There you will be sure to encounter an exasperated faculty, an harassed, dispirited librarian, a weak staff, if any, and a general ineffectiveness on the part of the library in serving the academic community.

In still other institutions the librarian is not granted a seat and vote in the faculty. This is a viciously bad practice. Its evils are too patent to need illustration. If a man is not qualified for the duty and responsibility of sharing in the debates, consideration, and decisions relating to general university policy and administration, he ought not to be appointed librarian, whatever his technical qualifications may be.

Other varieties of present-day trouble arise from the fact that sometimes the librarian has no executive ability, and sometimes he is solely an administrator. Sometimes a veritable state of civil war exists between the faculty and the librarian, due usually to a misunderstanding of respective purposes and functions. In such cases you may find the librarian viewing his teaching colleagues as a group of violent anarchists determined to subvert, disrupt, and destroy his laboriously constructed realm of order, system, and paternalistic regulation. The faculty may be found regarding the librarian as a petty tyrant, unsympathetic and hostile to their professional point of view, completely oblivious of the vital importance of their work; or as a spider-like monster ceaselessly weaving vast webs of maddening regulations; or again as a crafty enemy ever sapping and mining against their comfort and convenience—ceaselessly constructing horrid pitfalls and barbed wire entanglements in the shape of meticulously prepared catalogs, elaborate systems of (to them) meaningless classification, and other types of irritating

mechanism. Do you think this an exaggerated picture? If it were possible ever to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in a democracy, I could prove to you that I have rather understated such a case.

Now, as usual in this very imperfect world of very imperfect human beings, there are rights and wrongs on each side. It requires constructive statesmanship to avoid or to adjust such violent differences and misunderstandings, and those who possess this quality are few in number. I do not envy the conscientious university president to whom today falls the duty of appointing a chief librarian. He knows that the faculty prefer a man of their own general type and attitude of mind. He also knows that the condition and peculiar problems of the library require a man skilled in the technicalities of modern library economy and practice. He may be entirely willing to grant a vote and seat in the faculty to the candidate if the latter possesses an academic training and experience equal to that of other heads of departments in the university. But where, in general, can he find this combination? I think it must be admitted by us that his possible sources of supply are few and his possible candidates fewer. Suppose, being an enlightened university president, he fully recognizes that the library is the equal in importance of any other great department of the university. What he is really seeking is a man who ranks in proved competency and professional status about as the head of the history department would rank, and one who has executive ability at least equal to that required of a dean, or of a department head with half a dozen assistant professors and instructors under him. Again, I say, I think we librarians must concede that as yet our largely self-taught ranks and limited number of library school graduates do not offer the university authorities a large field of choice in securing the kind of man wanted.

During the past decade the action of several of the larger and some of the

smaller American institutions of learning with respect to their appointments of directors or chief librarians has deeply hurt the pride and dampened the hopes of many of my earnest and high-minded colleagues in the American library association who have labored long and arduously for the advancement and higher development of our special work. In some instances I have fully shared their feelings; in others I have not. In the latter cases, it has seemed to me, upon learning all the facts, that certain special and individual local conditions really precluded the appointment as librarian of one whose experience had embraced only the technical phases of library administration and practice.

But while I recognize the existing difficulties confronting our college presidents in choosing a suitable chief for their libraries, I do not think that, taking things as they are at present, the difficulties are anything like as great in the matter of junior members of the library staff. Here the authorities can have the pick of the younger generation of workers and those just entering the work. These should be selected with the greatest care, either with or without special examination as circumstances dictate, but only the most qualified should be chosen and preference should be given to graduates of the library schools or those who have had a first-class training or experience in large, well administered libraries. Any other course is unworthy of a university or college which pretends to any standards of demonstrated competency or proved efficiency. The universities should appoint only the best trained products of the present system, and keep exerting a steady pressure in the direction of raising its standards and requirements.

So again I return to my thought and conviction that it is to the universities that librarians must chiefly look for leadership in standards, example, and practice. If, throughout the land, these institutions will begin by definitely recognizing that at least three-fifths of

the operations and functions of the university library must be directed and carried out by men and women just as highly and specially trained as those engaged in the teaching, class-room, and laboratory activities of the institution, this will be the first great step in advance. If the authorities will then proceed to organize a series of carefully thought out undergraduate and graduate courses of study, etc., into a well coördinated educational scheme, having for its avowed purpose the professional training of young men and women for college and university library service, they will then be automatically creating a fit personnel with which to staff their libraries. If, having created this new class of trained experts, they will then appoint them, rank them, treat them, and pay them in the same manner and at the same rates as instructors, assistants, associate professors, and professors, holding them always to an equal standard of competency, efficiency, and intellectual growth, then indeed a new profession will have been born, or an old one reborn, whichever you choose. Not until this situation is created, not until the universities have established this higher standard and have provided the educational machinery requisite for attaining it, not until they have applied this standard in their own practice and custom, do I see great likelihood of our vocation being generally recognized and ranked as a "profession" in the traditional sense in which that word is understood.

It is upon the universities that I place the largest responsibility for the future welfare, progress, and rise in rank of the work which we represent here today. I am optimistic enough to believe that once they realize this responsibility, they will not shirk it. And having accepted the responsibility they will surely find it to be, not a distasteful burden, but a precious and noble opportunity both to serve our democratic state in a most practical way, and to advance the highest interests of the great republic of letters.

Library Work and the Public Schools*

Charles Hughes Johnston, professor of secondary education, University of Illinois

Most of the speakers on the program so far have naturally taken the professional attitude of technical librarians toward your problems. I come to you, primarily, to reflect for you what I understand to be the typical attitude toward library service of the progressive, up-to-date public school man.

The American high school is perhaps our most typical as well as our most promising American institution today. Its dreams of various curriculum extensions, of incorporation of fascinating new social features, the new conceptions that are fermenting in the minds of its leaders, make of the modern high school an institution which arrests the attention of all serious students of our civilization. In painful contrast to this, from the point of view of a librarian, we see in these modern high school buildings, perfectly appointed in many respects, but a motley array of old and useless and dirty textbooks, out-of-date encyclopedias and reference works, and an unkempt array of old black volumes of reports of departments of agriculture, "attic books," gifts, often, of friends, who wish to clean up their attics and get their names in local papers.

If one attempts to vision the whole "reading horizon" of high school pupils, one is struck with the meagerness of the entire field. For example, in a city of 75,000 inhabitants in a bordering state, we have what is called the second best high school in the state. This high school has fully equipped laboratories in three different sciences; fully equipped rooms and apparatus for domestic science, for manual training, for commercial work, and even for some work in German and Latin; but there is no equipment for English, and practically none for the social sciences. On an analysis of unit costs for different items of construction in this high school, one would judge that the *making of a user of books* was not one of its purposes.

*Read before Illinois library association, Urbana, Nov. 5, 1915.

Some of the factors figuring in this growing modern emphasis upon a better library service are the following:

1. The high schools are differentiating their curriculums, arranging different lines of study for different groups of pupils. This means less dependence upon standard texts and more dependence upon supplementary reading, comparison of other secondary treatments of same subjects, use of sources, etc.

2. The movement for vocational guidance is really in many respects a movement for making of the high school library or the public library a real laboratory. The Grand Rapids high school library so functions.

3. The social centre movement again contributes to create a need for different sorts of library equipment and a more representative collection of books and journals. The modern socialized high school cannot otherwise extend into its most directly "educational" field.

4. Still again, the junior-senior high-school movement, which is spreading rapidly, has introduced the question of the minimum and unique requirements in the way of library service for junior high school, and the more extensive and definite requirements for senior high schools, with, in many cases, their junior college extensions. Here is really a new field for more or less expert librarians to occupy while it is new and hospitable.

5. Another movement which is indicative of the opening of avenues for library service is that of the instituting of high school journalism departments and plants. Here is one way of making one and one-half million careful pupils into critical library readers of current literature—those who will have a standard for demanding a better output. Here possibilities for immediate service challenges our highest imaginative powers.

6. Perhaps, finally, the most important movement that bears directly upon library service in high schools is that of *supervised study*. This movement means that our daily school schedules are to be altered, that our class room periods are to be divided, that expert library services are required to carry on the high-

school work, and that there will be a great alteration in the former literalness of high school assignments and intellectual work generally. All these movements with many others have brought about what we might term the "era for specialists" in modern high schools. Every new sort of service such as the one that is opening up for libraries in public high schools is more easily solved, theoretically, by proposing as a solution that the high schools employ an expert in this particular work. Just as we have experts for study-coach, experts for vocational guidance, experts for social center workers, experts for employment offices in high schools, experts for coordinating junior-senior high schools, experts for the art work, etc., so also there has come a demand for the expertly trained teacher-librarian. The ordinary expanding high school cannot afford, of course, to add an expert wherever there develops a new need. A natural and gradual solution will be to combine in one person several of these functions. The opportunity for the person with some library training would appear to be that she, in the high school, should assume also some such functions as the supervised study director, the teacher, the vocational guider, and also the high-school librarian.

Briefly, what are some of the plausible and partial solutions of this problem of extending and vitalizing expert library service in high schools? To be brief and necessarily dogmatic, I offer for your consideration the following:

1. I would suggest that this association officially work out a conception of the minimum instructional equipment and other sorts of library support which, in their opinion, any public high school, approved by the North Central association, should enjoy. At the present time, this association and other standardizing agencies of interstate scope are working toward a new conception of units and standards for high schools. This is the psychological time for such an association as yours to formulate definite standards, and, as an organization, officially communicate them to these inter-

state school standardizing associations. This same formulation might well go also to the high-school inspectors connected with all the state universities and similar functionaries in influential, approved universities and in the offices of the state departments.

2. You have already had outlined for your special curriculums for the training of public high school librarians such as is illustrated by our own Library school here at the University of Illinois. This is ideal, or rather represents a developing ideal, but it cannot alone ever meet the large, complex and urgent needs of all state high schools in respect to their immediate library duties. All high-school teachers and administrators must be reached directly, if possible.

A special course, therefore, in the schools of education or in departments of education in the various colleges of the state, all of which train high-school teachers, might well be worked out by this association. The course might be entitled something like this, "Elements of library mechanics." It might well be a two or three-hour course, definitely and systematically outlined for all intending teachers of high school work, dealing with the minimum essentials from the point of view of library workers. Some schools of education are putting in as strongly recommended courses for the students such subjects as "Mechanics of writing," "School hygiene," etc., as "borrowed" courses necessary in their own "education" curriculums for all intending teachers. On the assumption that this offering of the "Elements of library mechanics" in their curriculums as well as the other "borrowed courses" from other departments such as English departments and the medical departments, will strengthen the general equipment of all high-school teachers. Some definite contribution by this association is desirable. If some committee could work out this course and make definite proposals regarding its organization and method to all departments of education, I believe much would come out of it.

3. There might be special courses also

worked out by such a commission of this association in contents and methods of such courses in the "Use of the library by high school students." The carefully worked out items in this course should be embodied in an elaborate syllabus with bibliography of accessible sources. It should be recommended to high schools as a course to offer for credit as a real part of their high-school curriculum. No course that does not carry credit is taken sufficiently seriously to amount to much. Something like the suggestion made here is now being carried out in Detroit Central high school. Of course, we are all familiar with the Grand Rapids library work in which this library work is actually the real laboratory work for the English department, and also the real laboratory work for the well organized vocational guidance bureau.

4. I think this organization could well take up also the question of defining what constitutes a desirable "Teachers' professional library and reading-room." This might be separate from, or an adjunct to, the high-school library.

This is one aspect of library work concerning which we may learn something from Germany. One of the writers on German education says:

I have but one judgment to pass upon the whole library economy of the Fatherland—public, school and university alike. It is an outrageous farce. The redeeming feature, however, is the uniformly excellent collection of pedagogical works to be found in every secondary school. These books are sometimes in charge of a member of the faculty and placed in a separate room. But they are generally to be found in the teachers' assembly room, where they can be easily consulted without restriction. A typical collection would contain not only works on general pedagogy but all the most valuable reference books pertaining to the work of each teacher—dictionaries, atlases, gazeteers, commentaries, standard texts, leading educational journals, and pedagogical materials such as can be obtained in no other country in the world.

And these collections are largely supported by incomes from special funds set apart in most schools for this particular purpose. Another good feature is that friends of the school and alumni are

in the habit of contributing. The librarian in American high schools has then this additional opportunity of aiding directly in the emancipation of the much text-book ridden high-school teacher. Rochester, Kansas City, and Richmond, Indiana are among the cities which are doing something in this direction.

Another method, furnishing an interesting illustration of the new educational work for which libraries should stand, is the securing of proper working connection between the public-school library and the high school. One method very effective is for those in charge of the public library to effect some voluntary extra school organization of high-school students to work as a civic exercise with them toward making their city library efficient. Some leading organization of high-school students, having this affiliation with an agency outside the school, if skillfully managed, may become very effective, and react to good effect on both the school and the library, effecting the sort of intimacy of coöperation so desirable.

5. Another important movement for libraries to encourage is that of local surveys which are attempting to determine the reading facilities and reading habits in the home. Dr C. E. Holley of this university, has written a thesis in which he has found interesting correlations between the persistence in school and the facilities for reading found in the homes. Principal White of Kansas City high school has found a high correlation between elimination of high-school pupils and poor conditions for study in the homes. There has been recently a survey of the reading facilities and practices of the high-school students of Decatur, Illinois. Such movements as these might not be encouraged by this association but interpreted by them to a larger public.

6. I offer the further suggestion that it would be a good thing to have a reading-circle book treating of all the ideals for which this association stands, written in such a way that it might be adopted by state reading circles, and possibly also by the International Rural School Read-

ing Circle commission. Certainly there is no subject of more general interest than would be this one.

7. Lastly, I would suggest that this association urge certain well qualified persons to present to those in charge of the county institutes of the state a list of persons who can speak effectively before these large bodies of rural teachers on the aims and needs of librarians in rural schools. The objects of this campaign in Illinois should be the county superintendents.

I should suggest that some commission to look into the desirability of such positive action by this association as I have here briefly sketched be appointed and formulate in their own way whatever aggressive action on this matter they might feel inclined to propose to the association as a whole.

What can be Done by Illinois Libraries for Shakespeare Year*

Prof D. K. Dodge, University of Illinois, Champaign

In considering the subject of this paper we must be careful to bear in mind the varying needs and resources of the different classes of libraries. We might apply to the whole subject the saying of Lincoln, "Some can dance and some can sing and all can holler." However small the library and however limited its means it can contribute something to the celebration of the great tercentenary next April. For celebrations of this kind have a distinct value, the effects of which are felt long after the celebration itself has passed, the value of suggestion. The effect of such a celebration corresponds somewhat in the intellectual field to that of a revival in the religious field, by making people think more carefully of the subject under discussion. And surely anything that will make the patrons of our public libraries think more about Shakespeare and in many cases read more of him must be regarded as being distinctly worth while.

The head of the average public library

may ask himself, "But what can I do in this matter, with my limited resources? Any attempt at an exhibition of our Shakespeariana will simply result in an advertisement of our weakness." The answer to that objection is very simple. If your library is especially weak in this direction now is the psychological moment to strengthen it within reasonable limits. And, as a matter of fact, when we come to take stock we are quite as often surprised at what we have as at what we lack. Let every librarian in the state make up his mind to do something to remind his patrons that April 23, 1916, is the most important day in the twentieth century with reference to English literary history.

But many librarians, with the best intentions in the world, will be met with the practical difficulty of what books should be added to the slender stock, in order to make a better showing next April and to extend the usefulness of their libraries in the future. It is here that the value of an organization like the Illinois library association makes itself felt. If an outsider, but one who takes a lively interest in this association, may be allowed to make a recommendation of policy, I would suggest that, in order to meet this very evident difficulty, a committee be appointed to prepare a list of Shakespeariana, with full information about publishers and prices, to be distributed among the libraries of the state. The expense of preparing and distributing such a list should not be very great and if it be prepared with a proper consideration of the conditions under which it would be used its value would be out of all proportion to its cost.

As our time is limited I shall confine my attention to a brief consideration of the scope and general character of such an outline. It will be understood, of course, that this list is merely suggestive and that many of the titles will not appeal to your expert judgment and that many books that your practical experience has found of special value have been overlooked by me. In making the selection, however, I honestly tried not to take the point of view of a teacher of literature,

*Address before Illinois library association, November 3, 1915.

but to consider the needs of the general reader, members of women's clubs, and high school pupils.

For the sake of clearness I have adopted a classification of Shakespeare books. This classification may not commend itself to experts, but it is exact enough for our present purpose and it does not involve very much overlapping.

1. Editions. Obviously the first class to be considered is editions of Shakespeare's works. I am not as sure as I should like to be that the adverb obviously applies fully to the real demands of library patrons. To too many patrons of our public libraries we may apply the cartoon representing two men evidently engaged in an eager discussion, with the statement put in the mouth of one of them: "Since neither of us has read the book, I think our discussion should be somewhat less vehement." So many people would rather read about a book than read it.

For many librarians this question has already been settled by earlier purchases. But assuming the case of a new library or of one still without a good edition, we may make a selection from among a number of different kinds of editions, the choice depending partly upon the cost of the set, partly upon the peculiar needs of the particular library. A library of medium size should of course have more than one edition. Every university library and every large public library will have a set of the Cambridge Shakespeare, the standard critical edition, but even if the question of expense were disregarded, I should not recommend this edition for a small library, for its appeal is mainly to the critical student and its apparatus is of little use to the general reader, who is not concerned about questions of various readings. It would be too much like the books that are in every gentleman's library and that no gentleman ever thinks of reading. If only one edition is to be bought it should be annotated and it should contain a vocabulary. Among the best editions of this class are the Rolfe (rev.), the Hudson (new), the Arden, the Dowden, the Temple and the Tudor. They cost from 25c to 50c a volume and

the Temple is also issued in 12 volumes. If any unannotated edition is bought it should be one of the inexpensive one-volume editions, such as the Globe, the Oxford or the Cambridge Poets' (Neilson). The practical advantage of the Globe edition is the fact that almost all critical references to Shakespeare are to this text. The disadvantage is the rather fine type. The Neilson edition has the valuable feature of a condensed history of each play and the arrangement of the comedies and tragedies in their supposed order of composition. At a pinch it may take the place of an annotated edition, tho it is not a satisfactory substitute.

For the use of the high school depending upon the public library several volumes of the Furness Variorum should be bought, the choice depending upon the plays studied in the English course.

2. Contemporaries of Shakespeare. Closely related to our subject are the predecessors and contemporaries of Shakespeare. A selection of these may be made from the Mermaid series or the Temple dramatists or they may be obtained in less expensive form in Neilson's Chief Elizabethan dramatists or the Everyman Minor Elizabethan plays (2 v.). In case the latter collection is selected a volume of Marlowe should be added, either the Mermaid or the A. B. C. edition.

3. History of the Elizabethan drama. For this subject the standard work is F. E. Schelling's Elizabethan drama (2 v., 1908). The very full bibliography will be found of great value by many general students. Ward's English drama (3 v.) and volumes IV and V of the Cambridge History of English literature are admirable but more expensive.

4. Biography. The same general principle should be followed here as in the selection of editions. An inexpensive popular life like Rolfe's, Sidney Lee's, H. W. Mabie's, or Walter Raleigh's is preferable to the more exhaustive and critical *Outlines of the Life of Shakespeare*, by Halliwell-Phillips, the *magnum opus* of Shakespeare biography and the basis of all later study. Neilson and

Thorndike's *Facts about Shakespeare* and Dowden's *Shakespeare primer* are admirable compendiums, belonging partly in this class, partly in the class of critical works.

5. Critical works. It is difficult to make any specific recommendations under this head, where it is hard to see the woods on account of the trees. E. Dowden's *Shakespeare, his mind and art*, A. C. Bradley, *Shakespearean tragedy and Shakespearean comedy*, R. G. Moulton, *Shakespeare as a dramatic artist*, Barrett Wendell, *William Shakespeare*, H. N. Hudson, *Lectures on Shakespeare*, G. Brandes, *William Shakespeare*, are among the leading critical works in English that appeal to the general reader. Hiram Corson's *Introduction to the study of Shakespeare* is both sympathetic and practical. Of the critics mentioned here the sanest are perhaps Dowden and Bradley, the most brilliant and original are Hudson and Brandes. H. F. Stephenson's *The study of Shakespeare* (1915).

6. Topography. Some one book on Stratford should be included. J. Leyland's *Shakespeare's country* and H. S. Ward's *Shakespeare's town and times* are among the best inexpensive books.

7. The Elizabethan stage. Great interest has been taken of late years, both by scholars and the general public, in the history of the stage. With the numerous technical discussions of the past decade we are not concerned here, but reference may be made to the following books, which make a more general appeal: T. F. Ordish, *Early London theatres* (1894), G. P. Baker's *The development of Shakespeare as a dramatist* (1907), and Brander Matthews' *Shakespeare as a playwright* (1913). Ordish's book is of course somewhat antiquated and it is confined to the theaters outside of the city. Baker's book contains a number of carefully selected illustrations and its treatment, while interesting, is severely critical. Matthews' book refers especially to the relation of the plays to the theater of Shakespeare's time.

8. Modern stage interpretation. In view of the lively interest at the present

time in the art of acting, room should be found for at least one book on the modern stage interpretation of Shakespeare. Some of the best books of this class consist of collections of dramatic criticisms, like William Archer's and William Winter's.

Lives and autobiographies of actors, like Booth's and Irving's are distinctly worth while. They satisfy at the same time the gratifying demand for biography, which is one of the striking tendencies of the present time. I believe that the best antidote for excessive fiction reading is biography, for a good biography has all the interest of fiction and something of substantial value besides.

9. Miscellaneous. Every classification should conclude with what may be called a scrap pile, on which we may place those books that do not belong in any particular class. Here we may place two admirable novels dealing with the time of Shakespeare, William Black's *Judith Shakespeare* and William Bennett's *Master Skylark*. The second book deals with the interesting subject of the boy players and it seems to make a special appeal to boys and girls. W. J. Rolfe's *Shakespeare the boy*, altho it is not in story form, serves very much the same purpose as a novel in telling us the most important facts about the life of an Elizabethan boy, at school and at play. D. H. Madkin *The diary of Master William Silence*.

In conclusion, let me observe that in its entirety this is an ideal list, tho far from being an exhaustive one. To many it may seem as conspicuous for its omissions as for its inclusions, but I flatter myself that it contains no titles that might not properly find a place in any general collection of *Shakespeareana*. How many of the books find a place or will find a place in any one library will depend upon various circumstances. Whatever its faults, it has at least the merit of sincerity and its preparation has given pleasure to at least one person.

The faculties of our souls differ as widely as the features of our faces and the forms of our frames.

Of Interest to Illinois Libraries

A new line of connection between the University of Illinois and the libraries of the state has been formed by the proposal of the University library to distribute to such libraries of the state as care to have them, the bulletins of the University and other printed material available for free distribution. This is a commendable movement on the part of the University and it is to be hoped the libraries of Illinois will appreciate it sufficiently to coöperate with the University by making the information that the material contains available to the community which the library serves.

M. E. AHERN.

Not Much Difference

November 19, 1915.

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Prospective buyers of the new Biographical Lippincott "thoroughly revised" may be glad to learn something of the actual points of difference in the two editions:

Total number of pages, the same.

Old notices sometimes condensed to give space for new, i. e. George IV truncated to make room for the present king.

E. H. Blashfield (e. g.) appears the same in each edition and J. W. Alexander impartially debarred from both.

Date of death added in some cases.

Some full-page portraits added.

ROBERT K. SHAW,
Librarian.

Public library, Worcester, Mass.

No Difference

Nov. 17, 1915.

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

The Alexander Hamilton Institute published in its Modern Business series a book by Moxey on Accounting systems. The books of the Alexander Hamilton Institute cannot be bought direct from the Institute, but can be picked up by libraries in the second hand book shops. The Alexander Hamilton Institute sold Moxey's Ac-

counting systems to the Key Publishing Co., who recently issued it under the title of Practical accounting methods. The Key Publishing Co. is no longer in existence, but this particular volume is now to be bought from the Ronald Press Co., 20 Vesey St., New York.

Libraries owning Moxey's Accounting systems do not need Practical accounting methods, as the books are identical.

BEATRICE WINSER,
Assistant-librarian.

Free public library, Newark, N. J.

Request to Librarians

From the Keystone State library association

Three years ago the request from a committee of the Keystone State library association was made to the H. W. Wilson Co. that a few representative foreign magazines should be included in the *Reader's Guide* or *Reader's Guide Supplement*—all the magazines indexed at that time being either American or English with American publishing affiliations. The Wilson Co. finally selected the *Spectator*, the *Revue De Deux Mondes*, the *Deutsche Rundschau* for inclusion. The *Spectator* was added as a representative English magazine but the publishers of the other two chosen took the stand that the Wilson Co. should pay for any copies that they wished, even though they were to be used in indexing. The Wilson Co. felt that inasmuch as the other reviews sent copies to them without cost such a stand was unjust.

The committee at the recent meeting of the Keystone State library associations at Butler, Pa., suggested that the effort to secure these be continued and to that end that librarians be asked to comply with the request of the Wilson Co. that librarians should write to the publishers concerning the desirability of indexing periodicals and the value to librarians of having the *Deutsche Rundschau* and *Revue De Deux Monde* indexed. For the *Deutsche Rundschau* letters should be addressed to Gebru-

der Paetel, Lutzowstrasse 7, Berlin W. 35, and for the *Revue De Deux Mondes* to Mr G. Samberry, director, 15 Rue de l'Universite, Paris.

The committee believes that such an effort would have effect and that it would be an excellent thing to do and that the effort to make the *Readers' Guide*, even though only in a small way, a key to cosmopolitan rather than of exclusively American thought cannot but be of real influence. All such aid will be greatly appreciated by the committee having the matter in charge.

MYRA POLLAND,
HENRY J. CARR,
O. R. H. THOMSON,
Chairman.

October 21, 1915.

Sound Suggestion

The *Cardiff (Wales) Libraries' Review*, Vol. IV, No. 2, in addition to other very interesting appraisals of books, has the following by John Galsworthy:

Russian language and literature Introductory note

My advice to those opening for the first time the treasure book of Russian literature is to read first, as I did, the fifteen volumes of Turgenev's novels and short stories—in Constance Garnett's translation (Heinemann). Of all the Russians, Turgenev is the truest poet and the most perfect artist. When readers have finished with Turgenev, let them take up—in the same translator's version—Tolstoy's "War and peace," and go on till they have devoured all his fiction; but let them not forget to read his play, "The powers of darkness," a grim but very great tragedy. Then let them take a dose of Gogol—"Dead souls" and "The revisor"; and after that read the two Russians most in vogue at the moment, Dostoyevsky (not forgetting his "Memories of a dead house") and Chekhov. Of the latter there are now translated at least three volumes of short stories: "The black monk," "The kiss," and "Stories of Russian life,"

and several plays, of which "The cherry orchard," "Uncle Vanya," and "The seagull," are most memorable. Pushkin (save a little in a poor translation—I am told he cannot be translated) and Lermontov I confess not to have read. Of the living writers Maxim Gorky and Andreyev are not to be neglected. And a book of Artsibashev's called "Sanine," is just published, in translation, by Martin Secker, but I have not yet read it.

The natures of these Russian writers, their styles and temperaments, are as various as the seasons of the year, but they all or nearly all have in common an unpretentious sincerity, a direct power of presenting their visions and conveying their thoughts to the reader, unequalled by the fiction writers of any other country. They face life, and they love it. They never stoop to wrap it up in the vulgar tinsel of false sentiment, forced morality, or faked romance. Without hesitation I put the Russians at the head of the world's novelists.

JOHN GALSWORTHY.

Notice to Libraries Importing Books

The Foreign Trade adviser of the department is in receipt of a communication from Sir Richard Crawford, Commercial Adviser of the British Embassy, stating that the British Government is prepared to issue permits for shipment to the United States of books in German or other language, from the enemies of Great Britain, of a philosophical, scientific, technical or educational character, if specifically destined for universities, colleges or public bodies. Sir Richard Crawford states that it would require that in all such applications for such permits, the good faith of the application and the particular institution concerned should be vouched for by some official authority. The Librarian of Congress has indicated his willingness to act in the capacity indicated by Sir Richard Crawford, in passing on these applications. The endorsement of the Librarian of Congress upon the application would be to the

effect that he is satisfied that the application is genuine and that the volumes for which the application is made are in fact intended for the use of applicant institution.

If universities, colleges, or other public institutions interested in obtaining books of this character will forward their applications to the librarian of Congress the latter will pass upon them and after satisfying himself of the bona fides of the application and the proposed use of the books, so endorse the application, forwarding it to the Foreign Trade adviser of the department who will in turn forward it to the British Embassy at this capital with an unofficial request that the permit for the shipment of the books in question be issued.

Typographical Error

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Referring to the communication on page 410 of the November issue I am curious to know if the accent on the word "library" is not misplaced unintentionally or by your correspondent? Surely you never heard anybody pronounce the word with the accent on the second syllable, and neither Murray, Century or the Standard even hints at such pronunciation.

The rest of the letter is quite pertinent and your own comment justified; but the conversion of "a" into "u" is so common as hardly to cause comment nowadays. I think the proportion of people who pronounce "American" correctly is extremely small. I am more interested in the pronunciation occasionally heard of the "e" sound in the first syllable. I suspect this may be the effect of too much learning. The modern pronunciation of Latin may very well have affected in college students the pronunciation of words derived directly and obviously from that language.

Yours sincerely,
C. W. ANDREWS,
Librarian.

The John Crerar library,
Chicago.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES regrets that verbal instructions to the typist caused such a sad blunder in printing the note from Visitor. The instructions given at the last minute were to accent the first syllable with the result that appeared as related by Dr Andrews! It was a typographical error for which Visitor, who is deeply chagrined, was in no wise to blame. Readers are asked to hold Visitor entirely blameless.

EDITOR OF P. L.

A Modified Classification

Statens Bogsamlingskomite, Copenhagen, has issued an adaptation of the Decimal classification for use in the public libraries of Denmark. The system evolved by co-operation among Danish librarians is marked by some very radical modifications. Thus, Class 400 has been reserved for Geography and Travels, and Class 800 includes Literature and languages. In addition, a re-arrangement of Class 100 has been made in accordance with the propositions advanced by Professor Höffding. The geographical symbols 5 to 7 have been reserved for the Northern countries.

While it seems natural to modify the D. C. according to local needs, we doubt if it is a useful change to rearrange the Class history (900) to the extent of interchanging 92-94 by making 92 stand for France, 93 for Gt. Britain, and 94 for Germany.

The *international* use and significance of the D. C. symbols would seem too valuable to permit a havoc, such as exemplified in this scheme, to be played with the groundwork of the time-honored and generally appreciated system. We regret that the modifications have been carried unnecessarily far by our Danish colleagues.

J. C. B.

A resumé of the history of the Library of Harvard university, the third edition of Description and historical notes by Alfred C. Potter, has been issued by Harvard University Press.

Public Libraries

MONTHLY - EXCEPT AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

Library Bureau - - - - - Publishers

M. E. AHERN - - - - - Editor

Subscription - - - - - \$2 a year

Five copies to one library - - \$8 a year

Single number - - - - - 25 cents

Foreign subscriptions - - - \$2.25 a year

Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1897.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

Time Notice

Attention is called to the dates on which material edited for PUBLIC LIBRARIES should be sent in, in order to have it appear promptly. The form and extent of each PUBLIC LIBRARIES is pretty well determined by the fifteenth of the month proceeding its issue. Sometimes when announcements come in, or material that will not be timely after a month has passed, place can be made in the forms to receive it.

The Illinois state meeting—The recent meeting of the Illinois library association at the University of Illinois was a record breaker, in many respects. The largest attendance of Illinois librarians in the history of the association was recorded. A very perceptible quickening of the library spirit was in evidence on every side. The intelligent response to the demands of the meeting was very noticeable. The faithfulness in attendance at the various sessions showed an interest and

appreciation of what the gathering meant. The speakers evidently understood their audience, had definite messages to deliver which were pertinent to the occasion and, in general "talked to the point and stopped when they reached it."

The meeting being held at the University of Illinois, of course gave the association the advantage of calling on the state specialists to present the topics which had definite interest for and relation to library service. The program presented matters affecting general library affairs of the whole state and the manner in which these topics were presented left little to be desired.

The presentation of these general topics by men outside the library ranks gave an opportunity for the speakers themselves to get a new aspect of the librarian's viewpoint which cannot but result in helpfulness. There were expressions of pleased surprise from a number of them as to the purpose and attitude of those with whom they talked.

The interest and coöperation of the Illinois library school were distinct factors that added to both the pleasure and profit of the meeting. The students of the library school acted as cadets for the association and by their prompt, constant and courteous attention to details necessary to the conduct of the meeting, made it possible for the officers of the association to give their entire attention to the general management in a way that added largely to the success of the meeting. The young ladies who served in this capacity showed a keenness to be useful and an appreciation of the importance of their work that promises effective

library service wherever their future lot may be cast.

Many of the papers read were on a par with those that one hears at a larger meeting. The address by Mayor Conger, of Galesburg, would have conveyed some sound business advice to library boards and librarians anywhere. The helpful Shakespeare bibliography by Prof Dodge will prove its value, doubtless, to many other librarians, in addition to those who heard it. "Universities and librarians" by Mr Carleton was a scholarly address, sounding a note that is of importance. If library work is to continue in the place which it earned through the strong impetus given to it by enthusiasts at the end of the last century, enthusiasts who were strong men personally and intellectually, and whose like are not now so numerous in proportion to the extent to which the work has grown as they were in that early day, a decided strengthening in quality of scholarship must be induced.

And so one might go on to speak of numerous other good things presented in the program and which made the meeting of the Illinois library association of 1915 notable in many ways.

Meeting plan for 1916—The Executive board of the A. L. A. deserve the sympathy of the membership sometimes, even tho they have the high distinction of being the court of last appeal in the association as well as the unwisdom of doing things sometimes that do not suit everybody.

Now is a time when one may sympathize with them in the arduous task of choosing the place of next year's meeting of the A. L. A. There are several places that appeal strongly for

various reasons and it would be an easy matter to decide on any of them, except for a feeling in the Board that the Middle West has a claim on the meeting place for 1916, in view of the long journeys the members of that section have taken to attend conferences for the past five years. But a meeting place in the Middle West measuring up to the things that the A. L. A. membership has come to think it must have in order to be happy is not easy to find. The association has grown so large that it is almost impossible to find quarters large enough to accommodate everybody at "headquarters." City meetings are debarred—weather must be propitious—hotel must be first-class—visits must not be repeated—transportation must be comfortable and inexpensive and "claims" of localities must be adjusted. Other considerations might be named, but this is enough to show the present troubles of the Executive board.

The place that offers the best opportunities for a Middle West meeting is Mackinac Island, but it offers some knots. It has almost everything except inexpensive transportation. The association held its conference there in 1910 when the weather acted up for 24 hours, but it did so all over the country at that time. Where is another place in the Middle West that can take care of the meeting according to its traditional needs?

The President, Miss Plummer, has an appealing program for the meeting, if it is held in the East, which program is not possible if the meeting moves west of the Alleghany mountains. The places under consideration in the East are Saratoga, N. Y.; Asbury Park, N. J., and Mt. Kineo House on Moose-

head Lake, Maine, with Asbury Park in the lead. Any one of these mean the same stress of travel that has prevailed for the Middle West for five years, but it also means change of climate, some would mean inexpensive travel rates, and all offer sufficient hotel accommodations at the journey's end.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES meant to hold out for a meeting somewhere near its home, but at the present writing there is nothing in mind on which to settle. In the meantime, the Executive Board are trying to solve the problem satisfactorily and so one may sympathize with them at this time however he may feel about their decision later.

State library supervision—The editorial in PUBLIC LIBRARIES last month advocating consolidation of the library interests of the state as a unit has called forth comment from both New York forth comment from both the New York state librarian and from the secretary.

Mr Wyer says:

These are the facts. For a generation or more there have been in New York State, small, separate collections of state publications for both the Senate and Assembly, open only during sessions, cared for by political appointees and pretty nearly negligible in the way of library service to the legislature. Last winter the legislature merged these two collections with the new name of Legislative library with a smaller staff than before (but with larger aggregate salaries!) appointed in the same "spoils" manner. It thus, in fact, reduced by one the number of library agencies. This action separated no work from the New York state library, the Legislative reference section of which is unchanged and is doing more work for legislative and state departments than ever before. It did not in any way affect the nature of the work of the State library.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES should be sorry if the argument for consolidation of all libraries serving officers or employees of the state at capitals were interpreted as a reflection upon the management of

the New York state library. It was a situation which seemed to show the beginning of a division that was in mind. In following the progress for a period of several weeks of legislative action creating a so-called legislative library, there appeared in the published accounts of it no protest against the duplication of the legislative library already at work nor a setting forth of the value of its contents and of its ability to serve the legislature to the exclusion of the proposed new library sponsored as it was by those known as spoilsmen. New York state library was once the court of almost the last appeal in library service at home and abroad. What it proposed was followed in library legislation in New York and elsewhere and almost nothing was done against which it set its face. One became so accustomed to finding things done as it directed that it still causes a shock if one finds it otherwise.

It is some satisfaction to know that legislative material was not separated from the main library and thus far the statement in PUBLIC LIBRARIES was not in accordance with Mr. Wyer's statement of facts but there was a filching of the name and a duplication of opportunity that are not in strict accordance with first-class conditions. It remains for the State library to gather in the annex.

Mrs Budlong, the secretary of N. D., says:

In North Dakota, the last legislature created the "Board of Regents" for supervision of the university, the agricultural college, the three normal schools, the School of science, the industrial school, the school of Forestry and the Library commission. The transfer of the supervision from an independent commission to the newly created Board of Regents has not so far affected in any respect the work in the office or throughout the state. The same staff is in charge and is continuing the previous pol-

icies. Monthly statements and reports are sent to the Board of Regents instead of to a commission, as formerly. This transference does not make us a department of the university nor subordinate to it in any way—it simply makes library work definitely a part of the educational system of the state and makes one of our strongest state agencies responsible for our success. The title of the executive officer is secretary and director of public library commission.

The State library in Dakota means the law library only, a collection of volumes for the convenience of the Supreme court and not circulated. The State librarian has no duties outside the care of this collection of books.

The aim of the legislature in making the change was economy in state expenses by reducing the number of small commissions and centralizing educational interests to prevent duplication. All libraries in the state will report to this office including the State library, and University library, as well as all public and institutional libraries.

The term "Board of Regents" in North Dakota means more than is allowed it in other states and the Board certainly has a large task cut out for it as a group of five members. Formerly the library work was in charge of a board of five—three ex-officio and two members appointed by the Governor. Whether the library work of North Dakota in its new relations in the large school group will prosper more or less than formerly, only its future progress will show.

Without in the least desiring or intending to cast reflection on any State library effort for the betterment of library conditions, PUBLIC LIBRARIES still maintains as it has from the beginning that library work for the state is of sufficient value if properly done to call for a separate department into which should be gathered library effort of every kind which the State as the active agent provides for its officers and for the citizens of the state.

Send in subscriptions for PUBLIC LIBRARIES direct from the library, five subscriptions for eight dollars.

A Publicity Expert for Public Libraries

The Pacific Northwest library association through its publicity committee has recently started a movement for the employment by the American library association of a publicity expert for public libraries. With this object in view, copies of the letter which is given below were sent to 33 representative libraries in 20 different states, asking them to urge their state library associations to pass resolutions recommending that the A. L. A. employ such an expert.

Pacific Northwest Library Association Committee on Publicity

Charles H. Compton, Chairman
Seattle public library
John B. Kaiser,
Tacoma public library
Cornelia Marvin,
Oregon state library

1 September, 1915.

At the meeting of the Pacific Northwest library association at Spokane in September, 1914, there were two papers on library publicity which aroused considerable interest and resulted in the appointment of a committee to work out a scheme of co-operative publicity for the libraries in the Pacific Northwest. The association went on record in favor of the employment by the A. L. A. of a publicity expert and voted that a recommendation to that effect be presented to the A. L. A. Council at its next meeting. This action was again endorsed at the 1915 meeting of the association, held in Salem, Oregon, June 1, when Mr Henry, the association's representative in the Council, was instructed to present the matter of employing a publicity expert. This he did at a meeting of the Council in Berkeley and it was referred to the Executive Board, which, we presume, will pass upon the resolution at its meeting next January.

It has occurred to our committee that this resolution would be much more likely to receive favorable consideration at the hands of the Executive Board if it were reinforced by similar resolutions passed by other state library associations. We should be glad if you would see that this question of the employing of a publicity expert by the A. L. A. is placed before the library association of your state at its next annual meeting, which, we presume, will be some time soon. If your association takes favorable action upon it, we would ask that a resolution to that effect be forwarded to Mr Utley, Secretary of the A. L. A.

The eagerness with which the libraries

of the Pacific Northwest have accepted the help which our publicity committee has been able to offer them leads us to believe that a publicity expert employed by the A. L. A. would be of the greatest service in increasing the use of libraries throughout the country. Our latest venture in co-operative publicity has been remarkably encouraging. Samples of a poster which was printed in Seattle were sent to 29 public libraries in the Pacific Northwest and orders were received from 20 libraries for 2000 posters, Seattle using 550, Portland 500, Tacoma 200, several libraries 100 each, and the others smaller quantities. The libraries that did not order were very small. This, we think, illustrates how the same publicity material can be used by both small and large libraries. In Seattle, with excellent results, they were placed where they would attract attention, in department stores, restaurants, barber shops, shine parlors, comfort stations, vacant store windows, etc. Those in especially prominent locations were put in frames with removable backs, the purpose being to change the posters in the frames as new ones are printed.

In addition it might be said that the publicity committee has made a collection of publicity material and an exhibit of this has been displayed at the last two meetings of the P. N. L. A. Publicity news letters are sent out occasionally by the committee, the object being to keep the libraries in the Pacific Northwest in touch with what is being done in library publicity. These things are mentioned merely to illustrate, in a slight way, the kind of work which we believe a publicity expert could do for the libraries throughout the country. We realize that when this matter comes before the Executive Board probably the first objection will be the lack of funds. We would answer this by saying that we are convinced that the cost of hiring a publicity expert would within a short time be met by the sale of publicity material. In other words, it would seem that it is not a question of lack of funds, but rather one of directing funds into a new channel. Libraries are now spending no small amount on various kinds of publicity, lists, bulletins, etc., and it is doubtful whether the results obtained from a large part of this warrant the expenditure of time and money. It would, in our opinion, be a long step towards economy as well as efficiency if there were someone directing library publicity who really knew what he was doing. We librarians who are such sticklers for trained service in the library profession ought to be the first to want and demand the assistance of the best talent available in a task so difficult as modern advertising.

We hope that your state library association will take such action as may help to

meet this need for efficient library publicity, the lack of which we judge is one of the most self-evident facts to everyone engaged in library work.

Answers to this letter were received from 22 librarians in 17 states. Of these answers 1 is unfavorable, 6 are non-committal, and 15 favorable. If the opinion expressed in them is representative of the majority of librarians, it would seem that such a publicity expert would fill a long-felt want. Extracts from some of the letters follow:

A Massachusetts librarian says:

It seems to me that in this matter we have all been working too long in well-defined ruts and that there is a need and an opportunity for just such outside and expert help along this line as you suggest.

The librarian of a large eastern library, the work of which is recognized throughout the country, writes as follows:

It seems to me that the method you are adopting is the only logical one for library advertising. Unless advertising copy is properly prepared it misses much of its value. I do not believe that anyone but an expert can prepare suitable material, and it seems to me much more satisfactory to have it prepared so that it can be used by a large number of different libraries.

The librarian of a medium-sized eastern library says that his library, although by no means well-to-do, would be willing to contribute \$100 towards the salary of a publicity expert.

The librarian of a public library in the South says:

Personally I am much interested and have no hesitancy whatever in endorsing the proposition.

The librarian of one of the large libraries of the Middle West writes:

I am greatly in favor of the general plan to have the A. L. A. Publishing Board print such material as you have loaned me.

The following is from a Minnesota librarian:

We sincerely hope that the A. L. A. will appoint a publicity expert, for such work might just as well be co-operative as to be done by individual libraries.

Of the answers received from heads of four state library commissions one was non-committal, the others very favorable. A quotation from one of these may be sufficient:

It certainly does seem foolish for libra-

ries to be duplicating efforts—often with indifferent results—when such work could be centralized and done by experts for all of us.

The librarian of a large library on the Pacific coast writes:

I am in the most cordial and emphatic agreement with everything that you say in your publicity circular, and I shall do everything in my power to have the library association urge the American library association to appoint a publicity expert. In my opinion this would be the most important innovation of recent years in library work.

The one unfavorable letter presented an objection which I presume would be one of the first to occur in any discussion of the question of employing a publicity expert. This is stated in the following words:

What strikes me most, however, is the fact that advertising agents and librarians seem to be earnestly considering means of bringing to the public attention the service which the public libraries can render, while in this library the public already asks for more service than we have money to provide as we should like.

After giving statistics of readers and circulation in support of the above statement he goes on to say:

Yet the city persists in giving us the same appropriation each year. So here you see we do not feel the need of advertising so much as a way to increase our income.

There are without doubt other librarians who feel the same way, but is it not reasonable to believe that it would be easier to increase a library's income if people in general, and the city council in particular, were better informed as to what a public library really is and what it does? Publicity should do this for libraries—make them known—not only increase their use but also give them a place in the public mind as a necessary part of our educational system. It seems to me that until there has been created a public opinion which is in favor of adequate support for public libraries, we are going to continue to have more than one city council which persists in giving the same appropriation year after year, if fortunately it is not further reduced.

Without doubt the problem which presents the most difficulties in the practical carrying out of the plan of employing a

publicity expert is one of finance. We realize that it may be impossible for the A. L. A. with its present income to pay for his services, but we are of the opinion that there are a sufficient number of libraries who would cooperate in doing this. Such a plan as outlined in one of the letters received by our publicity committee is worth quoting:

It occurs to me that possibly a scheme for financing the undertaking might be presented to the Executive Board which might take the form of graded or sliding scale subscriptions to carry on the administrative side of the work, the size of each library's subscription being based on the amount of its income or the size of the community it serves. The publicity material itself could then be purchased at cost by subscribers and in such quantities as each might require. It might be possible for the Executive Board to secure tentative subscriptions in advance and in that way find out what the response of libraries to the undertaking would be likely to be.

We hope that the Executive Board will take the initiative to the extent at least of presenting such a plan to the libraries of the country.

In discussing the expense of employing a publicity expert certainly the economy, not to mention efficiency, of cooperative publicity should be self-evident.

An indication of the saving that could be made by printing publicity material in quantities may be noted from the modest beginning which the Publicity committee of the P. N. L. A. has made. The cooperative posters, of which 2000 copies were recently sold to 20 libraries in the Pacific Northwest, cost 4 cents each or \$17.50 for 500. The cost of 25 posters if printed alone would have been \$4.50 instead of \$1, while the cost of 100 would have been \$7 instead of \$4. Naturally the big saving was for the small libraries, but there was some reduction for the large libraries, as the cost of 500 if printed alone would have been \$21.75 instead of \$17.50.

In fact, in considering this whole proposition one thing that needs constantly to be kept in mind is that it is not, for most libraries, a question of spending more for publicity, but probably less, and that more wisely.

The idea is worth considering.

CHARLES H. COMPTON.

Illinois Library Association
Proceedings of the annual meeting held at
University of Illinois

The annual meeting of the Illinois library association opened at Champaign on Wednesday afternoon, November 3, 1915, in the auditorium of Burnham Athenaeum. Mary Eileen Ahern, president, was in the chair.

A most cordial greeting was extended the members of the association by Mr W. F. Woods, member of the Champaign library board. Mr Woods spoke briefly on the libraries as universities of the masses and librarians as educators of the people of the state and said "that a great responsibility rested on the libraries and also an opportunity, in providing good books, governing as they did the character of the reading of the citizens."

Miss Ahern, in responding thanked Mr Woods and through him the Mayor and the Board of Directors of the public library for the courteous greeting.

In the absence of Mrs Eva May Fowler, Illinois state library, who was to have reported on the A. L. A., Miss Ahern spoke of the Berkeley meeting, and also of the Exposition.

Mr C. J. Barr, John Crerar library, Chicago, in presenting the proposed new constitution, called attention to the changes in it. These were in liberalizing the membership to include all interested in its work, in eliminating the council and adding a second vice-president, and in specifying the duties of the Executive board. After some discussion the constitution was adopted by acclamation.

Prof D. K. Dodge, University of Illinois, spoke on What can be done by Illinois libraries for Shakespeare year? Prof Dodge suggested that a most useful contribution would be the compilation of an annotated bibliography of Shakespeareana. (See page 460.)

Mr Henry E. Legler, librarian, Chicago public library, spoke of what Chicago planned to do for the Shakespeare year and also made some excellent suggestions regarding the part smaller libraries could take in the celebration. He spoke of the Drama League's action

in encouraging the production of the plays throughout the state.

In Chicago, committees have been or will be appointed to formulate plans. Some already formulated are pageants to be given in three of the parks, bringing out the picturesque side of Shakespeare. Several thousands of people, including many school children, will be interested in these productions.

Costume balls will be given with Shakespearian characters.

Dramatic performances in local play houses, schools, clubs, etc.

Essay writing competition for school children.

He urged the librarians to encourage the reading of Shakespeare. Here the libraries may help greatly. The Newberry library will exploit the pictorial side of Shakespearian literature in a series of exhibitions. The Chicago public library has begun to print a bibliography of its editions, commentaries, etc. It will be issued serially and later combined. This library has also put aside space where the student may have the material and also the help of trained workers.

"I would suggest that each library in the state make a survey of its Shakespeare material and also make a survey of the collateral material in private libraries in the town, which will undoubtedly be usable for loan collections, thus getting enough to have exhibits each of the 52 weeks of the year." Advertisements and magazine extracts offered other sources of material. Mr Legler showed a number of mounted pictures as suggestions for exhibits. Some of the subjects were as follows:

Portraits of Shakespeare.

Reproductions of rare and first editions. Facsimiles may be had in publishers' catalogs.

The different plays—their editions—as produced on the stage—as produced by great actors.

Book titles taken from Shakespeare's works.

Songs taken from Shakespeare's works.

Poems using him. Books including him.

The stage in his day. Spurious plays.

Characters (Hamlet, Falstaff, etc.).

Boys in Shakespeare.

Dogs in Shakespeare.

He urged the librarians to get in touch with the Shakespearian students in their own town, with the schools, the clubs, etc.

Prof E. B. Greene, University of Illinois, addressed the association on

What can be done by Illinois librarians for the Illinois centennial

He said in part:

"December, 1918, when we shall celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the admission of Illinois into the Union might be regarded not as a birthday but as a coming of age celebration for then we began to do the work of a state. It is felt it should be celebrated by something unusual. We wish to commemorate the achievements of the past and at the same time learn for the future. It is also an occasion for genuine instruction for the people of the state.

Prof Greene told of the Illinois survey started at the university about 5 or 6 years ago and which might form a basis for a centennial memorial. In this work they have the coöperation of the Illinois state historical library. Considerable effort has been made to gather documents from all sources.

The Centennial commission appointed in 1913 and reorganized in 1915 is building on the work already begun by other agencies. The libraries could coöperate with the Commission especially in helping to get material from their several communities for the proposed publication, Illinois in 1818, which partly descriptive and partly documentary will present a picture of the life of the state in 1818. This work is now nearing completion.

In the proposed Centennial history bringing, in five volumes, the history of the state down to 1918, librarians are asked to help by communicating with the editors and giving any information about files of newspapers or family correspondence of which they have knowledge. It is hoped to make the work appeal to the general reader. It will contain also a bibliography of use to students.

Prof Greene spoke of the crowded and dangerous condition of the libraries

in Springfield, of the one hundred years of state archives now distributed around in different parts of the state house in great danger from fire and much in need of a suitable building. This, he suggested, would be a suitable result of the enthusiasm aroused by the Centennial celebration.

The Centennial commission is giving its support to the State Art commission which is proposing to erect statues of Lincoln and Douglas. It is encouraging celebrations not only in the state capital but also in all towns where the librarians might very well assist by organizing groups to undertake this. These celebrations should have a far reaching effect on our public responsibility that will be real though not easily measured. The coöperation of the librarians of Illinois is earnestly desired.

On motion of Miss Florence R. Curtis, who stated that Mr S. S. Greeley, member of the Winnetka library board, long a faithful and helpful friend of the association was unable to be in attendance this year the following telegram from the association was sent to Mr Greeley:

The Illinois library association has voted you a message of friendly greeting, of regret at your absence from its annual meeting, and its best wishes for your health and prosperity. It also voiced appreciation of your faithful and efficient coöperation for better library service in Illinois.

The meeting Wednesday evening was held in Morrow hall at the University. The audience was a large one and evinced much interest.

Dean David Kinley, vice-president of the University of Illinois, greeted the association on behalf of the University in a very cordial address, saying they were glad to have any educational association on their grounds, but were especially glad to welcome the Illinois library association. He congratulated librarianship as a profession in that so short a time, even within his memory, it has passed from an attitude of passiveness toward the use of its books by the public to one of aggressiveness. People are no longer simply allowed to use the books, they have them placed in their hands and are urged to read them.

In the absence of Dr L. C. Lord, whose attendance was prevented by illness, Miss Florence Skeffington of the Eastern Illinois state normal school at Charleston, read a paper on "The English novel." She showed that the novel is the most important form of composition used today; the essay, philosophical studies and even sermons have given way to it. The novelist puts us face to face with life itself and treats directly of its problems.

Miss May Massee of Chicago, editor of the *A. L. A. Booklist*, next talked most interestingly and convincingly on "The growing appeal of poetry." She showed the demand for poetry is increasing. Two magazines are now devoted entirely to poetry, besides many others which publish poetry and criticisms of poetry. A well known New York publisher feels that he "must publish some poetry in order to keep up with his competitors." As the most convincing argument for the appeal of poetry, Miss Massee read poems of Yeats, Masfield, Noyes, Binyon and others.

On Thursday morning the meeting opened with business for the association, appointment of committees, etc. The regular program was then taken up.

Debits and credits of twenty years

Miss Ahern chose, as a subject for her presidential address, The debits and credits of twenty years.

She said in part:

"A good business organization at stated times makes a critical examination of its assets and expenses, its credits and debits for the purpose of a clearer understanding of its fortune and the drift of its momentum. May we not with perfect propriety, look at our situation as such an organization and, from the conditions found, decide what is our present standing as an instrument for usefulness in the field we occupy? There will be this difference in our findings—unlike the business house, we shall find that our profits, if such there are, will not be in the coin of the republic."

She used the terms of the business world, in defining the library as a busi-

ness institution, representing the library and its phases by the plant, the machinery, the stock upon the shelves and the people using it compared with customers who come in to buy. Having the institution organized, the problem presented was to increase the number of users of the library which, she stated, in Illinois was less than 20 per cent of the population. She then reviewed the organized library work in Illinois from 1896, when the association was formed with about 40 members, with two objects to attain, to promote the intelligent development of public libraries and the library interests of the State of Illinois.

The World's Fair at Chicago, she named as the source of the second great impetus to library work. The model library there, intelligently selected, carefully and scientifically classified and cataloged, she called inspiration to all those who sought it and many librarians owe their present vision of effective library organization to the ideal presented by that collection of books. As the first exposition meeting of the American library association started the desire for orderliness and coöperative organization, so the second showed the value and effect of this organization; sent out into the Middle West and beyond thousands of both trustees and librarians with the desire for a similar condition in their own libraries, and the idea of the library as an effective part of educational machinery became a fixed notion in library development.

One of the potent effects of this library ideal in Illinois was the founding of the Illinois library school. This library school is today an organized part of a great state university which bestows upon its graduates its seal of approval in the degree it confers. The library school diploma of the University of Illinois is an open sesame to any position of honorable standing in library service in the field outside of the state, when its holder's experience is of equal value, and yet that university, the head of the educational system of the state, with a reputation for thoroughness and ability that gives it rank far beyond the

borders of the state, being subject itself in the appointment of its own library workers to a board of control that is itself appointed through political or personal affiliations presents an anomaly of curious features. The Civil service board says in effect to the university: "You must show me you are honest in bestowing this library diploma," and to others: "You must pass under my measure before you enter there."

For more than twenty years, we have had one of the leading library schools of the country in the confines of our state and yet outside of the two library centers of the state, of the more than 500 graduates of this school there are less than 20 graduates from this school, or from any library school, in charge of library work in Illinois. This situation is the more to be deplored as there are in the adjoining states, and indeed from New York to Oregon, those who are leading in the development of fine library work, who are honored in their community for work well done and who received their training in the Illinois library school. This calls for an examination of the situation and the application as soon as possible of the remedy for the same by those in authority. The short session of library training which has been provided for by the Library school in summer courses belongs on the credit side of the account.

A good library is an investment, not an expense, for the community, yet we are told that certain communities cannot afford well informed workers. Any community that has a library cannot afford not to have the person in charge of it well acquainted with books and sources of books, with the latest approved methods of getting these books into the hands of the people who need them, but, above all, a person of imagination and vision who sees in the smallest collection of books the means of widening the horizon of the community, until it has touched the boundaries of the world, by bringing the things of the spirit and the power of great minds and the words of the wise into the daily life of those who need them most.

The great Channing once said: "It is a plain truth and yet how little understood that the greatest thing in a city is man himself. He is its end. We admire its palaces, but the mechanic who builds the palaces is greater than they. You talk of the prosperity of your city. I know but one true prosperity—Does the human soul grow and prosper there? Material prosperity is only a means to an end, that end being the happiness and elevation of mankind."

A working library, particularly a public library, is a thing to be taken seriously. It belongs to the class of useful articles and not to the class of bric-a-brac. It is not one of those expensive things which a city must have lest it be thought not up with the times. Small culture is marked by an extravagant pride in those things which look like culture and which can be had by purchase. When a library is regarded as a necessity for the welfare of the town, it is an infallible sign that that community has found the diviner side of life.

Miss Ahern paid vigorous compliments to the civil service as it affects the service in the various state libraries—claiming that however well it may work in purely technical or clerical work, it cannot assure in a place where personal equipment forms so large a factor, that a round peg will not be placed in a square hole or more nearly a square peg scrape the sides of a round hole in a futile attempt to fill up space. She said it was a distinct handicap in library work.

She reviewed the struggle for state supervision of libraries which began by organization of the association and is not yet ended. She commended the work that has recently been done by the state library commission despite the handicap but said that an arrangement which separates the actual work so far from the source of power cannot be justified.

She advocated consolidation along legitimate lines, coördination of different parts and coöperation between the various elements that will take the place of duplication, inequality and opposition in the relation in which the various units

are at present involved. She said no amount of good-will and intelligent effort to reduce to a minimum a bad situation will make right the holding of an educational institution as an appendage of a purely political department.

She entered on the credit side, the personal spirit which was steadily growing in the state. At the time of the organization of the association, there were about 120 libraries in the state—89 tax supported and 30 subscription or endowed libraries. Today, there are 190 libraries supported by tax, 19 others; there are 242 persons, and 30 institutions, libraries and colleges, in Illinois, enrolled as members of the A. L. A. Illinois has been particularly fortunate in that while it has received a number of buildings as gifts from Mr Carnegie—a great number of the citizens of Illinois have built creditable library buildings for their communities. A recent revenue law, passed by the Illinois legislature through the efforts of the association, has given a greater power into the hands of the trustees which ought to be a strong lever in moving forward the power of the institution of which they have accepted trusteeship.

A library in every community reflects to an exact degree the vision, the devotion, the intelligence, the mindedness of the trustees who are responsible for the good name of the community where the library is concerned.

On the debit side of the account she placed the deficit in the coöperative relations between the school organizations and the library associations. It has been impossible through repeated efforts to interest those in charge of educational matters in the state in the development of library service. The State federation of women's clubs, while it has a library committee, has contributed in recent years almost nothing as a body to library development though many friends of the library cause throughout the state are members of federated clubs.

Miss Ahern referred also to the indirect influence which came from the increased efficiency and activity in the library circles of Chicago, as well as a

definite contribution from A. L. A. headquarters stationed there and, particularly in the spirit and activity shown by the courteous secretaries of the A. L. A. The official organ of the association, *PUBLIC LIBRARIES*, has not been without contribution to the development of library progress in the state.

Attention was called to the need of more experienced and trained workers to meet the teachers and the various organizations needing book help in the state. The trustees, particularly, need to be led by librarians of broad vision of the purpose of the public library. The need of coöperative library service for the rural districts was emphasized. Many towns and even townships have too low a valuation to raise sufficient funds to make effective any library service they might attempt and legislation looking toward the establishment of libraries on township or county basis was urged.

In a brief summary, the debit side was shown to include the lack of appreciation on the part of some trustees, which expresses itself in meagre library funds, particularly in salaries—which latter means limited ability in the performance of the work or else the contribution to the librarian's support by her family; inclusion of library work in the state in the bonds of civil service; duplication of work and authority in state library service; lack of legal provision for establishment of county libraries; proper financial support for the organizing work of the state; lack of coöperative work between the association and other similar organizations particularly the schools and the study club organizations.

On the credit side, first and foremost, the library school and what it has accomplished; what it stands for in its regular curriculum and in its short term; second, the eager *esprit de corps* among the workers; third, the live trustee, as we see him make his library a better investment for his town instead of an actual expense; fourth, the determination of those in charge of the hydra-headed state library system to make the best of a bad situation; the many fine examples of good library work that show ability,

courage and sympathy under unfavorable circumstances; continued zeal on the annual conferences where we may counsel together and add to our faith, knowledge that will bring good results in the end.

Miss Ahern said that in what she had presented, there was absolutely no desire to be merely critical—only a desire to arouse the constructive spirit which she had seen so often flash into effective life, when the needs of the situation had been comprehended. The people of Illinois respond to a demand for the better things of life, when they believe in the cause.

She closed by saying that, "while many may refine subtly on the violin, flute and other tender instruments, for a complete orchestra, one, at least, must beat the drum." The problem of the association is to present the opportunity offered by every collection of good books so clearly that the day of the trailer in library work that is going out so rapidly, will soon have entirely passed in Illinois. Then shall Illinois escape from among those of whom Beecher spoke, when he said: "Many men build as cathedrals are built, the part nearest the ground finished but the parts which soar to heaven, the turrets and the spires, forever incomplete."

After the reading of this paper, Mr Utley said: "I fear the modesty of our President will prevent the appearance of this paper in our official organ and suggest that the association give a mandatory order that it appear."

Miss Ahern protested, saying it was for home consumption. Mr O'Donnell made a motion that it be printed in the official organ, which was seconded by Mr Utley and carried.

Mr H. M. Pindell, editor of the *Peoria Journal*, was down on the program to speak on The legislation we sought. Mr Pindell said little on that but spoke strongly on the importance and usefulness of the library to the community. He compared the large amounts paid by cities for parks and schools with the small amount given the library and said that commercial industries would be ashamed to pay the salaries paid in libraries. He said

also, "I'd like to stir up the library interest throughout the state. I'd like to make library work an asset to the state. We spend our state money for many things. Why not more for libraries? . . . I'd make the libraries community centers. Let us bring in everybody. The state is trying to put the liquor man out of business. Where will the workingman's club be when the saloon is gone?"

The next speaker was Mr Wilson of Chicago. "The bill as introduced was finally passed and signed by the Governor. It gives us increased revenue for library maintenance. Section 5 makes it mandatory to send in a budget to the councils stating the needs of the library. Libraries are given an opportunity to ask for what they want but it is optional with the council whether they get the full amount to which they are entitled or not.

"In estimating the amount you are entitled to, it is well to remember that the tax levy is made on the current year's valuation, which is not made until the state board gets through or about the end of the year. The last year may be taken and your idea of the increased valuation added to it."

In speaking on the subject of "Opportunities and responsibilities under the new revenue law," Mr Legler laid the foundation for his suggestions by referring to the meager financial support which the libraries of Illinois have had, and the substantial increase rendered possible under the new state act. He took it for granted that no library administration would regard its administration so perfect and complete as to leave unnecessary any further expansion or improvement. "If there are such," he said, "the new revenue law is not for them. They need no additional funds, and, indeed, are possibly receiving too much now. If, however, a library administration feels that there still remain ambitions unrealized—for the first time in the history of the state—the opportunity now exists for them to measurably approach this ideal. In order to realize just what is needful

each library, or the administrators of each library system, should rigorously examine their situation and upon the basis of the facts thus elicited build their foundations and the future structure. Are you doing all that you might do to strengthen the work of the schools by means of reference material, class room libraries and individual service with the teachers and their students? Are you meeting the needs felt by your population, whether it be industrial or agricultural to bring to their use the facts in print which will enable them to develop the interests of their everyday lives? Are you providing for the women's clubs, business men's organizations and numerous other citizen groups the books and other related material which could be useful to them, especially when rendered alive by the intelligent aid of the library staff? Are you, in short, doing all that you would like to do, all that you are expected to do, all that you ought to do to satisfy yourself and your constituents that the library has provided efficient service? If you answer in the negative, or indeed if you have even a doubt, then the responsibility rests upon the library board to provide the necessary machinery and materials and staff that will enable you to remove your negative impression or your doubt, and the opportunity is yours, as the responsibility is theirs, to see that the necessary facts are presented that will make the situation apparent. "Opportunities unrealized," said Mr Legler, in conclusion, "are the dead leaves that strew the path of progress, as pathetic reminders of hopes that bloomed and withered without fruitage."

Statistics showing the amounts received by the libraries in Illinois were given which under the new law could be increased 75% outside of Chicago and 50% in Chicago. He recommended that every librarian should bring before the board the exact situation in the library—what it lacks and what could be done. "Many of the small libraries have gone to bricks rather

than books. There are many ornate buildings that are practically bookless or have shelves full of public documents and gifts of the people. Books up-to-date are what the people are demanding—what they are needing. Millions are spent privately by the people to equip themselves for something better. Plan logically and in a businesslike fashion the needs of the library, to make it a more balanced collection before the additional appropriation is asked for." He suggested finding out what others are doing and mentioned the excellent arrangement of pamphlet literature in Galesburg. "All these needs must be made apparent to your board and your citizens before they will realize their new possibilities and responsibilities. While we all desire to exercise legitimate economy it really means not how little we must spend but how much we get for our money."

Mayor J. L. Conger of Galesburg addressed the meeting on

Making the library budget

He said in part:

"Shall we make a budget? I fear some libraries are drifting along hoping to come out even at the end of the year. * * * What the budget will do: Considered as a list of probable expenses it will save you from a deficit or still worse from hoarding your money. But considered as a plan of fiscal procedure you will see the general plan of the institution showing it as it differs from preceding years. One value of the budget is that it will indicate how much genius the budget makers have shown in finding new sources of revenue to meet new problems. The library budget should show where the money comes from, how much there is, and where it is to go. Although the income is stable the budget should show new problems. In going to the Council with the old request, 'We need more money,' you must show cause for asking more. The essential feature of an appeal is to make the city hall crowd feel they must give it to meet struction in the course. They an-

the necessities you urge. * * * Many libraries seem to have the plan of making both ends meet, than which nothing is more deadly, nor will anything keep an institution more in a rut. Don't be afraid of a deficit. Nothing will stretch men more or yank them quicker out of a rut than a deficit repeated annually."

At the close of these addresses the meeting broke up to assemble in round-table discussions in the interests of the small libraries, the trustees, the college and reference libraries and business libraries.

Small libraries

The round table for small libraries was held in Morrow hall, and was conducted by Miss Eva Cloud, librarian Public library, Kewanee.

Miss Felsenthal of the University of Illinois library led a discussion of ways and means of making the most of a small book fund. Buying from eight to ten times a year even in small lots was recommended. Special emphasis was placed upon the need of careful attention to community needs. Buying the best known titles by standard authors in attractive editions rather than purchasing complete sets was emphasized. The use of material that could be had free or at small cost was discussed. Careful selection of government documents, university publications and similar material was presented as a means of keeping the book collection of a small library up-to-date.

The desirability of buying from approved library lists and the need of system—the application of definite principles both in book selection and in book buying were given careful attention.

A helpful feature of this part of the meeting was an exhibit of books and pamphlets illustrating Miss Felsenthal's talk. This included a number of good library editions of standard authors and a collection of public documents especially useful in a small library.

Miss Hoover of the Galesburg public library led a discussion of the aids to

administration and children's work. The bulletins of the various library commissions were suggested as being especially helpful in the administration of small libraries. The A. L. A. publications were given first place as aids in book selection and mention was made of special lists that librarians present had found useful. Story hour outlines published by H. W. Wilson Co. and the Carnegie library at Pittsburgh, Miss Hewin's list of children's books and the Wisconsin list of children's books for first purchase were recommended as first aids in children's work. It was taken for granted that all libraries would have PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Trustees' round table met in Agricultural club adjoining Morrow hall and was in charge of Mr J. L. O'Donnell, director Public library, Joliet. Tax levy, Country service and Waking up the community were among the subjects discussed.

The trustees held an adjourned meeting on Thursday afternoon to continue their discussions.

Round-table of business libraries

The round table of business libraries was conducted by Louise B. Krause, librarian, H. M. Byllesby & Company, Chicago. In a few introductory remarks Miss Krause stated that the title "Business libraries" had been given to this round table instead of the title "Special libraries" because the latter term was ambiguous and could be applied to practically all kinds of libraries, except public libraries. She also stated that a mere collection of books existing in a business organization did not in her judgment make a business library and that she considered a real business library was a collection of library material so administered that it gave the greatest possible service to the organization of which it was a part. Miss Krause divided business libraries into two main classes: First, business libraries which exist exclusively to serve the regular business of organizations and, second, business libraries which in addition to serving the regular business of the

organization also aid employees along welfare lines. Representatives of both types of business libraries were in attendance.

Oscar E. Norman, librarian of the Peoples Gas, Light & Coke Company, Chicago, was asked to open a discussion on How the business library can help employees. Mr Norman gave a most interesting presentation of some of the work done by his library along this line. He spoke of the *Advance Club News*, the official organ of the Advance club of his organization as a medium for reaching about 1,500 employees, and of how he endeavored in each issue of the publication to put in something which would arouse the employees to think and overcome mental inertia. Mr Norman stated that in his opinion the library problem was not so much in getting people to read as in getting people to think. He said he never called any items which he inserted in the *News* "Library notes," but always used some other title to designate his material. Sometimes he printed a list of books available upon a certain subject; then again only a poem. Sometimes a specially helpful pamphlet, like "The man who bossed Johnson" was procured and a copy attached to each copy of the *News* which went to the 1,500 members. Special efforts are also made to give new employees pamphlets which will stimulate loyalty and interest in the company business. These were only a few of the many ways of helpfulness suggested by Mr Norman and which provoked a number of questions and an interesting discussion followed.

Miss Janet O'Brien, librarian of the Universal Portland Cement Company, Chicago, opened the discussion on Periodicals in a business library. She called attention to the fact that the latest and best information was generally to be found in periodicals and recommended a careful reading of them as a means of getting thoroughly acquainted with particular business fields. She also spoke of the importance of making a card index of peri-

odical information of special value to the organization. This, Miss O'Brien said, was rendered necessary by the fact that the printed indexes to technical periodical literature could not cover special items of information to which reference was needed. Miss O'Brien said that often a paragraph on a special subject would be lost in a general article which did not show it contained the specific information required, unless this information was shown in a specially prepared periodical index. For example, information about pavement cushions was formerly lost in articles on pavements in general, and not until recently had any special articles been written on the subject. Miss O'Brien spoke of the care of clippings and duplicate magazines and a general discussion followed on indexing and the use of printed indexes for periodicals. As the time allotted for the roundtable had expired at the close of the discussion on periodicals, it was necessary to adjourn with a number of interesting topics left over for discussion at some future time.

Seventeen were present.

College and reference libraries

The roundtable for college and reference librarians was held at Lincoln hall with Earl N. Manchester of the University of Chicago as the presiding officer. He suggested as a topic for discussion the "Reference librarian as a teacher," calling attention to the necessity of emphasizing the teaching side of the work of a reference librarian, particularly in schools and colleges and of seeing that students learn how to work for themselves as a part of their training.

F. K. W. Drury of the library of the University of Illinois outlined briefly the scope of an elective course offered at Illinois designed to acquaint students with the more elementary reference books, the use of the card catalogs and common bibliographical aids, and to serve as an introduction to the libraries of the University of Illinois.

He was followed by other members of the staff of the library who give in-

swered questions as to the number of students in the course; whether the elective feature was to be preferred to requiring the course of all freshmen; the use of text books and problems requiring research on the part of the student in addition to the lectures, and the attitude of faculty and students toward the course. There was general agreement that a course of this kind given by the members of the library staff was likely to be of greater service to students than lectures on the bibliography of any single subject given by the instructor.

J. C. M. Hanson, associate director of the libraries of the University of Chicago, outlined a plan followed last year at the University of Chicago. The plan included three lectures (of which only one could be given) followed by a tour of the general library under the personal direction of members of the library staff. About 500 students were taken on this bird's eye tour of the library in groups of six or eight, were shown the catalogs, a few types of reference books, the use of Poole and similar indexes, and received a short talk on regulation for the use of reserved and circulating books and the limitations in the use of departmental collections. He offered in criticism of this plan that it is difficult to get students together for lectures outside of regularly scheduled work, that in a general lecture before a large body of students one works under a disadvantage, and that the tour of the library, while consuming a considerable amount of time of the members of the library staff, was probably the best feature of the plan. It was recommended only where time could not be found for courses or for a series of more detailed lectures.

The session on Thursday afternoon opened with a symposium on plans for library extension, conducted by Miss Mary J. Booth, Eastern Illinois normal school, Charleston. She called on various librarians to speak of what they had done or were planning to do.

Miss Lydia M. Barrett, librarian,

Public library, Jacksonville, said, in making a survey of the library borrowers' homes they found a large section almost wholly untouched. It was not far enough to necessitate taking a street car to the library and yet was not near enough to reach easily by walking. A station was placed with a nearby grocer where 1,400 books were circulated during the year and many new borrowers were added.

Laura Caton, children's librarian, Redick's library, Ottawa, said that extension work among the children included Saturday afternoon entertainments for children, consisting of moving pictures, one comic and one educational. Post card loans and Victrola music had been tried during the year.

Two entertainments were given each day and the attendance was from 200 to 300.

Graded lists were sent to the schools and a story hour was held Saturday morning and the results were good.

Among the grownups they had tried lists of books for trades and professions, also lists of Scandinavian and Italian books. These were advertised also in the local playhouses but without apparent results. She considered the store window advertising more successful.

Miss Mabel Fletcher, librarian, High school, Decatur, said:

Our library is fortunate among school libraries in that we have a special room in the high school and a definite appropriation for books. The principal, the superintendent, and the board are interested in the progress of the library and the students on the whole feel a sense of responsibility in that department of school life.

Ends to which we are working are two in number. Two problems are ever present. We hope to familiarize all the 1,000 students with the library. To that end every semester the English classes meet one regular class period in the library. They are shown the general location of the books, and the use of the card catalog. Some time is devoted to the exhibition and dis-

cussion of the various periodicals and every child urged to read regularly the *St. Nicholas* or *Youth's Companion*. A few of the simplest problems are given. This is but the start towards a movement which shall not allow a single senior to graduate without knowing how to use a dictionary catalog and the *Reader's Guide* at least.

The second problem hinges on the first. The librarian is in the library only three hours and forty-five minutes during the time school is in session. In this time she must allow for all petty routine work, such as sorting passing cards, putting away books between classes, and answering all questions a high school librarian falls heir to. In our high school, from 30 to 50 students use the books every hour during the day; half of these, at least, need some direction. The opportunity for individual work with the students, for quiet talks and canny references to inspirational books overshadowed by the Harvester and Eyes of the world is small. After school comes the charging rush, when scores of children wish books immediately in order to go to a basket ball game or the movies, and as many more want to do reference work. Even with one student hunting cards and another charging the reserve books due the next day, the rush lasts a half hour, and occasionally an hour. By this time the librarian is capable of saying that Peck's bad boy is a classic of rare refined humor.

Such a distribution of time and activity allows small opportunity for the rather necessary cataloging, labeling and mending, except as students help with the simpler processes. The average high school librarian who teaches ten or fifteen classes a week feels some hesitation in working on Saturday and Sunday unless she is very strong minded, especially as she is responsible for her share of all the activities of her department, escapes no committee duty, must attend all teachers' meetings, and prob-

ably has the advisorship of a literary society thrown in for spice.

The thing then, that we are working hardest for, is such effective organization of routine work that the people in charge of the library may be tireless, swift machines doing thoroughly the work of two people in half the time it would take one person. At the same time we must be unhurried, willing to waste a word, and to show a bowing acquaintance with laughter. Like Ward in America, we still find many things in America to be cheerful over."

Miss Jane P. Hubbell, librarian Public library, Rockford, said:

The library of today has a vision and I believe it will spend wisely what additional revenue it may have. What I would like to have in my own library are, a building for our branch library, a deposit station in South Rockford to develop into a branch, two new deposit stations established, the employment of a publicity man or woman to get out the books now on the shelves, and in addition I would like to know how to live on twenty-four hours a day.

Miss Fanny R. Jackson, librarian, Normal school, Macomb, spoke of the necessity of instruction in the grade schools to make its pupils familiar with the library and of its special value to those who leave school at the eighth grade. She explained the course followed at Macomb as along these lines:

The first and second grades do not come to the library but are told about it at school.

The third grades are brought to the library and shown how to get books.

The fourth grade takes up the study of the book, its author and title, tables of contents, etc.

The fifth grade studies the classification. Each pupil is given a decimal number and they are told to arrange themselves by class. They also arrange themselves alphabetically by their names. Each one is given a book to put away.

The sixth grade studies the catalog and call number.

The seventh grade, Reader's guide,

the teacher brings the pupils one hour each week.

The eighth grade, the simpler reference books.

In the High school the ninth grade is given one or two lessons in connection with English.

Miss Lueva Montgomery, librarian, public library, Anna, said:

The library being a county library and only one year old the extension work is in acquainting the people with their opportunity by arousing interest throughout the county. Teachers institutes are visited and much work is done through teachers who telephone or write for books. They issue books especially to children who would otherwise not be able to get them as they do not come to town themselves. The first year's work just finished, has been successful.

S. P. Prowse, librarian, Public library, Peoria, very modestly explained he had but recently taken up the work so long carried on by the late Mr E. S. Willcox and had therefore not had time to do any extensive work but stated that he had had 1,000 plans and 500 dreams many of which he hoped to put into execution. They had just started the story hour for which they had engaged an expert story teller. He also had an excellent scheme for a budget and for the businesslike accounting of the finances of the library.

Miss Agnes M. Robinson, librarian, Matson public library, Princeton, said:

Plans were made for a reception and library day participated in by the city officials and prominent people, with speeches, etc. This to be followed by evening meeting calculated to advertise certain classes of books with speeches by local men and women most interested in the subject selected for the evening, for example, civics, books for women, books for men, scientific books, chemistry, art, books for the home, etc. It is also hoped that reading lists may be issued and some work among the children of the grade schools done.

Mrs Nellie C. Russell, librarian, Pub-

lic library, Pana, hopes to interest the business men in the books that the library has which will be helpful to them. One plan is to make lists of books on certain subjects, make lists of business men who should be interested and bring the two together by personal work.

Anna M. Smith, librarian, Public library, Pekin, in reporting, referred to some of the posters exhibited in Morrow hall which were the work of some of the high school students in Pekin who worked under the instruction or in coöperation with some one from the library. These posters showed the possibilities of trade catalogs and red ink in making attractive advertising material and also the value of arousing the enthusiasm of the high school students. The posters were used in store windows, at women's club meetings, etc.

P. L. Windsor, librarian, University of Illinois library, spoke of the hopes of the University mentioned by Dean Kinley—the million volume library and a suitable building for it. The extension work done consisted largely in replies to inquiries from all over that state from people, mostly university graduates who asked for reference lists.

Ida F. Wright, Lincoln library, Springfield, said the Lincoln library was working in connection with the School Board who wished to make social centers of the outlying schools and felt that collections of books would aid them materially. About 2,000 books are used in this way and the school houses are open twice a week in the evening. The library has also adopted the plan of giving five books at a time, books to be kept four weeks if desired. This plan was especially popular with people living at a distance.

This symposium was followed by a paper on Universities and librarians by Dr W. N. C. Carleton, librarian, Newberry library, Chicago, who said it had been prepared with the notion of college professors who do not appreciate fully the difficulties of college librarians hearing it. His main thought was

that "universities must be just as much the cradle for librarians as for teachers." The training of future librarians will be different from that of today. Intending librarians will push back into the undergraduate period much that is now taken in library schools. Bibliography should be given by the college professor. It is too much to expect graduates to go back and take up bibliography. All elementary library work should be done during college years. Advanced library work alone should come after graduation.

Included in the study for librarian-ship should be psychology, education, administration, university finance, history of archives, etc. One subject should be studied intensively.

Present library conditions in universities and colleges are not as happy as they should be. A poor college library means a poor instructor. The library is as important as any other department of a university.

It is difficult to find a college man who is fitted in all respects for the headship of a university library. Heads of departments and all assistants should be selected with the greatest care. Assistants should be as accurately trained as specialists in other lines. To the university library should we look for leadership in the library profession.

[Dr Carlton's paper is given on p. 451.]

Mr Utley, secretary of A. L. A., told something of the plans of the A. L. A. meeting next year. The Executive board is unanimous in desiring the meeting at some point in the Middle West, and in some reasonably cool place and has been urged to have it when the schools and colleges are out. The choice is about equal for Mackinac Island and Asbury Park, altho other places have been suggested.

Prof John A. Fairlie, University of Illinois, and a member of the Efficiency and economy committee, spoke on State library administration in Illinois. He reviewed the plans and recommen-

dations of the committee in their investigation of library matters.

This committee found six state libraries in Springfield, all under separate management, whereas the University has besides the main library six or eight department libraries, all under the direct management of the librarian.

With much duplication of work among the libraries at Springfield there are still some duties that should be performed and are not.

Other states divide up the work but none quite so much as Illinois. New York State libraries are organized as one library under one general supervision.

The Efficiency committee recommended, among other things, that these state libraries be consolidated, and that librarians should hold positions on a permanent basis as do librarians in public and university libraries. The State librarians should be well qualified and well paid. Such a plan would mean efficiency and economy.

The meeting adjourned at 4 p. m. for an automobile ride through the two cities.

On Thursday evening a most enjoyable hour was spent as guests of the University at a reading by Vachel Lindsay.

The Friday morning session opened with an address by P. L. Windsor on the work of the library school. [No report of this was received.]

The report from the Library extension commission followed.

Report from Library extension commission

Miss Price said the effort for the year had been more libraries, better libraries, more trained librarians and better salaries. The report would show how this effort had succeeded.

Four new public libraries had been established during the year, three cities have levied a tax for libraries and one has voted a tax for a township library, two other cities have changed from city libraries to township libraries; the number of township libraries now is 31 and the total num-

ber of free public libraries is 190. There are 59 subscription libraries not receiving financial aid through tax or city funds. Sixteen of these were started during the past year; many of these offer the privilege of the library free to the people, with the idea of securing support for the library tax, when the question of a public library is put to a vote. Thirty-five other villages and cities are planning with the commission to establish libraries.

Several notable gifts have been made: Miss Nettie J. Corbin of Yates City left \$5,000 for the founding of a library to this city. Miss Susan Dick left a bequest of a lot and \$8,000 for a library building to Carlinville; Griggsville received \$5,600 from the Carnegie Corporation for a library building and Sheldon and Gilman have also been promised \$10,000, each, for township library buildings. Four new library buildings have been occupied during the year and seven are under construction—all except three of these are gifts of the Carnegie Corporation, bringing the number of gifts from Mr Carnegie to public libraries in Illinois, exclusive of branch library buildings, up to 99.

The secretary has made 18 public addresses in the interest of establishing new libraries or in an effort to increase the activities of older ones. She has made 93 visits to libraries planning for larger development. The secretary urged monthly meetings of boards of trustees, except, perhaps, in July and August, and also strongly urged that the librarian be present during at least part of the meeting to make a report of her month's work and to give the trustees whatever information they may require on library matters.

The secretary also urged that the librarians of the state be more faithful in the use of the blanks sent out from the commission office. The commission has also prepared a financial record sheet for the use of the libraries of the state. The boards of trustees and the library extension commission should be furnished with copies of these filled out properly, immediately

at the close of the fiscal year of the library. If the records are kept up, it will require very little time to fill in and forward the blanks.

The commission offers to send the *A. L. A. Booklist* free to all libraries having annual incomes less than \$500. There is also purchased and distributed the best list of children's books published. Special lists have been sent out on business, advertising and management, agriculture, domestic science and the European War. A suggestive list of books to circulate in the district schools has been sent to all the township libraries.

The following libraries have been completely re-organized under the direction and assistance of the commission: Arlington high school library, Sandwich public library, Wyoming public library and the Kankakee hospital for the insane library. The commission has been happy to advise about plans, furniture, re-registration, changing systems, rules and regulations and rather frequent interpretation of the library laws.

There have been 18 changes in staff in the old established libraries and four appointments in the new libraries—making a total of 22 new appointees. Five of these have taken the regular course at the Illinois library school and are appointed to their positions at an increased salary. Six of the 32 have taken the Illinois summer school course. Miss Price urged that lectures under the direction of the library be more generally taken up by the libraries, though the record of the past year has been a good one. She recommended lectures by local travelers on places visited during vacations; lectures on United States history, Illinois history, lectures on municipal government by the city officers; lectures on vocational guidance, by citizens of the town where, for instance, a lawyer can talk on "What it means to be a lawyer" and a doctor on "Why I am a physician." The library should have ready for distribution good reading lists on each of the subjects.

No library institutes were held during this year though plans are under way for a series during the coming year. The commission had a booth at the state fair, exhibiting books, pictures and posters and distributing the commission leaflets. Miss Price went into detail on the extension of library privileges in rural districts carried on by a number of the libraries of the state and urged that each library make a systematic canvas of their rural population, to do more personal soliciting, allow more books to be taken at one time and to extend the time they may be kept, and by all means, to install a telephone that these patrons may make more use of the library through parcel post. In addition to the work of the 31 libraries doing rural extension work, the Library commission offers free library privileges to any community that has no library system, through traveling libraries. This part of the work shows a decided increase over last year—there being five times the number of requests and three times the number of volumes lent. There were 362 requests and 8,958 volumes were sent. In the reference department, 101 requests came on 165 subjects, 107 volumes were lent, 133 pamphlets and type material and 96 programs and outlines. The slides of the Springfield survey were lent 13 times since March, 1915.

Miss Price stated that the policy of the commission was to advise establishing libraries on the largest unit possible, in order to have a larger income and offer the privileges to more people. In her opinion, the township library law was not so good for Illinois as some others. A law analogous to the township school law that will allow for a division and a union of townships on community divisions would help considerably. While an improved township law would be a good thing for some parts of the state, other places could be developed best by the county library. There are 17 counties in the state which do not have township organization, 96 townships that have no free public library and 35 counties

which have only one free library. These counties are mostly in the southern part of the state, the towns are smaller and property has not so high a value as elsewhere. The library tax over the given area would bring in less than in other parts of the state.

Miss Price was in favor of one central county library with permanent collections to work through reading rooms with deposit stations served by traveling libraries in the various smaller districts. In Wayne county, it would require 25 townships to do what one county library could do and when it comes to voting on the question, it would be easier to carry one election than 25. The United States department of agriculture and the Bureau of Education have settled upon the county as the unit within the state so there is a precedent for the county idea. Miss Price urged that whatever legislation was asked for, whether township law, county law, or both, that the commission and the association act together.

Miss Irene Warren, librarian, School of education, University of Chicago, gave an interesting discussion of the **Mutual needs of schools and libraries in Illinois**

She said in part:

The great mutual need of schools and libraries in Illinois is the establishment of well organized and efficiently administered school libraries. Some states are doing better work in this line than Illinois. There are good school libraries in the state, but the librarians do not find themselves sufficiently organized as an integral part on school system nor on library system to make their work effective. They must spend time convincing administrators that they need the necessary supplies and equipment to organize the collection of books in the school and the instruction that is given in the use of schools and libraries is usually fitted into the program where it can, by chance, find a place, as a part of English work or when a teacher is unable to meet her classes and so on.

There is need for a great campaign

on school-libraries which shall strike broadsides from the elementary and rural schools across the high schools, colleges and universities, and the continuation and special schools of all sorts.

In an article in the November PUBLIC LIBRARIES, Miss Carey, who has done such excellent work among unfortunate people, comments on the way the members of the National conference of charities and corrections ignore the corrective and curative possibilities of books. For years we have found the same apathy on the part of school people. Only some definite concentrated action on the part of authoritative bodies such as the Illinois library association will arouse the school men to action.

The first practical suggestion I have to make is that a state supervisor of school libraries should be appointed to further the establishment of school libraries, give advice and help in organizing the present school collections and in developing the relation between public libraries and public schools. We know what splendid work our State library commission is doing for the public libraries and the library work in general in this state, but our secretary cannot add this school-library work to her many duties unless proper provision is made for it. We know that in some states the school libraries are being administered from the library side, while in others it is being done from the school side.

How shall it be done in Illinois?

We need in Illinois a well-selected, annotated catalog of books for both the elementary and high-schools. Such lists are now published in Wisconsin, New York, Minnesota, Oregon and other states. This list should be published by some authoritative state body and distributed free of charge or for a very small sum. Shall we ask one of the following institutions to make such a catalog, or shall we ask that they all join in a coöperative scheme for making it?

State Superintendent's office.
State Library commission.
State University library school.
State Normal school librarians.
State Normal school teachers of children's literature.

Those of us who are in school libraries feel that the courses being offered in library schools are not sufficiently adapted to the specialized field of the school library, and that the demand for school librarians is now sufficiently great to warrant the library schools' consideration of this phase of the work. A course in school libraries can be given to best advantage in a university where there is a Library school and a Department of education with practice schools attached. Is our own State university willing to undertake such a course?

Hundreds of teachers in this state are asking for the best books on various subjects, the best reference books for a school library, how to catalog a school collection and many other questions connected with school library management. Until such a time as some formal organization can be established, would it be wise to ask the Department of education of the University of Illinois to publish information on school libraries in its *Bulletin*, or would it be better to ask the University of Illinois library school to issue a series of such bulletins? The United States bureau of education has issued some valuable material dealing with school-library questions in bulletin form. I would suggest that our State library commission enclose a copy of the *Summer School Letter*, 1915—No. 5, entitled, The teacher librarian, in all correspondence dealing with school libraries and that we all help to give this letter full publicity in our state.

In various parts of the country we find school libraries doing splendid work. There is little question now as to how much a school-library department can do, though as a matter of fact, the relation with departments other than English, history and civics has not been very well worked out.

School-librarians cannot now afford to take the snap judgments of librarians or teachers regarding the many puzzling problems confronting them, but need the careful thought of administrators on both sides. More has been written on the library side than on the school side. Is the Department of education at the University of Illinois willing to submit some of these school-library questions to its classes of more mature students? Any school librarian could suggest many of them, such as, How much floor space should be given to a school library in a school of a thousand pupils? What should the seating capacity be? What should the stack capacity be? Can we form an estimate of the amount of duplication of books that should be made in the various classes? How should students be trained to use books and libraries?

Some of our state normal schools have required courses in children's literature, and required courses in the use of books and libraries. Is the Illinois library association willing to ask all schools having to do with the training of teachers to place courses in children's literature and in the training of students to use books and libraries on the required list?

The organization of any library involves a tremendous amount of work and a considerable expenditure of money. Is there some authoritative body in our state that can investigate the commercial and coöperative schemes which are adapted to school-library use with a view to recommending them? The catalog of books for a high-school library issue by the Indexers, 5526 South Park Avenue, Chicago, Ill., is a type of such work.

But the time allotted to me is already up, and I can only suggest some other questions which ought to be given most careful consideration in the near future.

What shall be the unit of school-library organization *next* smaller than the state?

Shall it be county, or township?

Who shall own and administer the books for the elementary and high schools?

Shall it be the Board of education or the Public library?

What shall be the content of a high-school library department? Shall it contain books, periodicals, maps, pictures, lantern-slides, music, phonograph records of various kinds, a department of instruction and the study-room?

How large a faculty should a high school have before it employs a librarian?

Should there be standardization of requirements for high-school librarians and on what basis should their salaries be paid?

Have we sufficient data to show the effect of organized libraries, especially in the high-schools, on the development of school work?

The Library section of the National education association has five committees at work, Rural schools, Elementary schools, Normal schools, High schools, and Colleges and universities. Will you join us in the campaign this year to secure better school-libraries?

Prof C. H. Johnston, University of Illinois, opened the discussion and gave his views on the school man's interpretation. He spoke of the high school as the most typical American institutions and mentioned the changes of recent years in the courses given.

Prof Johnston favored a 2 hour course in elements of library mechanics in all colleges training teachers which should be required or recommended for all high school teachers. [Prof Johnston's address is given on p. 45]

A special committee

Preliminary to a motion for the appointment of a committee of eleven to make a thorough survey of school conditions and the readiest and most productive lines of library and school coöperation, Mr Legler expressed the hope that the Illinois library association would undertake a valuable bit of constructive work on a par with some of the fine work done by the New York state association, and indicated that in the topic of the morning's consideration there was contained the material and the opportunity for a report that would be a permanent contribution not only in Illinois but the entire country. He gave striking instances of the dearth of appreciation

in school circles as to such possibilities, and hoped that by means of a thorough summary of facts leading to undoubted conclusions of needs, it would be possible to so stir up school circles and to stimulate library circles as to bring about in the course of the next few years a remarkable fusion of forces in the elementary and high schools, and that within a few years there would be established in all the high schools of the country libraries in charge of competent teacher-librarians, willing and able to carry on a high type of library service, productive for the school and the community. He suggested a committee of eleven because this would enable such apportionment of the needful investigations as would render possible in final form a composite report dealing with all sides of the question and to point unerringly to certain conclusions. If the work were well done, he believed that the report of the committee of eleven would become the basis for many years to come for development along these lines.

Miss Ahern announced that she had received a communication from the National Peace Federation asking that all interested take an active part in the work. There being no time for a discussion the address of the association at 116 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, was given with the suggestion that all who were interested should write direct.

Unfinished business

Invitations were received for the next meeting of the Illinois library association from Mr Windsor on behalf of the University, from Mrs Evans for the Association of Commerce, and the Public library, Decatur; from Mr S. P. Prowse, for the Public library, and the Association of Commerce of Peoria; and from Miss Caton, for the Redicks library, Ottawa.

Reports of committees

The following resolutions were presented from the committee:

RESOLVED, That the Illinois Library association in convention assembled extend

its sincere thanks to the officers and faculty of the University of Illinois, to the cities of Champaign and Urbana for the great attention and the many courtesies extended, and also the Chambers of Commerce of Champaign and Urbana for the fine automobile ride through their beautiful cities, all of which will be long and pleasantly remembered by every member present at this convention.

RESOLVED, That the Illinois library association is in hearty accord with the aim of the Illinois Bankers' association in its work for community development movement.

RESOLVED, That the members of the Illinois library association in annual convention assembled, recognizing the able and splendid work of the various members of the General Assembly in behalf of the bill for the financial relief of the libraries throughout the state, hereby express the heartiest thanks and appreciation of the association to the members who so ably assisted in this work, and particularly to Senator Richard J. Barr of Joliet and to Representative Thomas N. Gorman of Peoria, whose untiring energy and interest in behalf of the amendment to the library law brought the matter to its successful conclusion.

Signed: JOHN B. WALLBRIDGE.
MAY MASSEE.
MARY B. DAY.
H. G. WILSON.
BLANCHE GRAY.

These resolutions were adopted and ordered to be spread upon the records of the association and copies sent to the legislative members mentioned by name.

The necrology committee, Mr Windsor and Mr Shaw reported as follows:

During the past year, the Illinois library association has lost one of its charter members, a man who had long been one of its chief workers, Mr E. S. Willcox, librarian of the Peoria public library. In view of his long and useful life and his connection for many years with library work, it is fitting that there should be placed in the records of this association a tribute to his memory and some appreciation of his work in the public library field.

The widely copied Illinois law of 1872 establishing free public libraries was drawn up by him, and it was largely through his efforts that the law was passed by the legislature. Even if he had done nothing else for our libraries, this contribution alone would cause his name always to be remembered by us with gratitude. But he did much more; he built up in the Peoria public library a notable collection of books, and long administered it with conspicuous

success. His sturdy integrity, his uprightness of character, his marked individuality, his unswerving loyalty to high ideals, his industry and energy in good works, all combine to bring honor and reverence to his memory among us his fellow workers.

The members of the Illinois library association desire to express their sincere regret at the recent departure from this life of Mr O. F. Barbour, one of the veteran members of the association. Mr Barbour served on the Rockford Board of library directors, as president or member, for more than thirty-six years; and served as a teacher in the public schools for more than half a century, a record rarely equaled anywhere. In the performance of every duty he was a conscientious and faithful public servant whose influence will long be felt among us.

On motion the above resolutions were adopted, spread upon the minutes and copies sent respectively to the widow of the late Mr E. S. Willcox and members of the Peoria library board, and the family of the late Mr O. F. Barbour and the Rockford library board.

Election of officers

In the absence of other nominations, Mr Windsor made a motion that the secretary cast the ballot for the ticket nominated by the Executive board which elected the following: President, Mary J. Booth, Charleston; vice-president, Anna F. Hoover, Galesburg; secretary, Ernest J. Reece, Urbana; treasurer, Adah Whitmore, Chicago. Members of the Council, James E. Shaw, Aurora; Mary B. Lindsay, Evanston.

The University library people and the students at the library school made it possible for all to see the University libraries by personally conducting those who wished to see certain details of library work. To the students of the library school fell also the task of keeping track of the locations of the visiting librarians, of ushering visitors at the meetings and making themselves generally useful to the great advantage of the delegates.

The exhibits in Morrow hall were helpful and suggestive. The poster work of the Evansville public library was especially good. The several com-

mercial exhibits of books, supplies, binding, etc., were shown by intelligent agents who were courteous and continuous in answering questions. The gift of the programs for the meeting from A. C. McClurg & Co., was specially appreciated by the Executive board.

Notes

"The growing appeal of poetry" is in danger of being outdistanced by the growing appeal of its author. The enthusiasm in Illinois for both the paper and the reader was not excelled by the spirit with which the paper was received in Berkeley.

Miss Massee's paper is printed in full in the A. L. A. *Proceedings* for 1915, which may be had from A. L. A. headquarters, Chicago.

The automobile ride, tendered the association by the Chambers of Commerce of the two cities gave many of the visitors a feeling of regret that it was too late for them to follow out the impulse created by the charm of the twin cities to enroll themselves in the student body of the University.

The exhibits at the meeting were both interesting and helpful and those in charge of them were courteous and appreciative. An exceedingly interesting exhibit of maps published by the national and state departments was seen at the library school. The exhibit was prepared by Miss Curtis and contained a collection of 26 maps dealing with localities in which Illinois is especially interested. A list of the maps, with their price (total cost \$7.50, unmounted) and the source from which they may be obtained, was distributed and carefully put away for future reference by many of the visitors.

The absence of a number of the regular attendants at the association was regretted by many, particularly in the number of instances where sickness and death in the families of the members were the causes of the absence.

The round tables were particularly interesting and helpful and it was a

matter of much regret that the time allotted to them was unavoidably shortened by the overlapping of the regular program.

A welcome visitor to the library meeting was Mr Adam Strohm, librarian of the Public library, Detroit. Mr Strohm graduated from the University of Illinois library school in 1900, and was, for a time, an Illinois librarian. His visit to the University to attend a meeting of the alumni association held in the week made it possible for him to be present at the meetings of the association.

There was keen disappointment at the absence of Dr Lord, particularly as he was prevented from coming by illness, but Miss Skeffington's presentation of *A study of the novel*, was thoroughly enjoyed by her audience.

The John Crerar library of Chicago had the largest number of delegates from one institution present, except, of course, the University of Illinois. A special car carried 65 librarians from Chicago and vicinity to the meeting.

The librarians of the state appreciated the kindness of the various members of the faculty in accepting places on the program and bringing to the association their valuable opinions on the subjects presented.

An unsettled point with some members is whether the meeting of 1915 was the nineteenth or twentieth annual meeting. The association was formed at the 1896 meeting and nineteen meetings have been held since. The 1915 president used the term "nineteenth" and the 1914 president used "twentieth" in speaking of this year's meeting.

By the adoption of the new constitution, the council of the Illinois library association ceases to exist. The constitution provides now for a second vice-president. Miss Eva Cloud, librarian of the Public library at Kewanee, has been chosen to fill the office.

REPORTER.

Centennial of Library of Congress

The Library of Congress, in its present form, was one hundred years old in October. It was founded in 1800, but was burned when the British entered Washington in the War of 1812. The nucleus of the new library was a collection of 6,700 v. made by Thomas Jefferson, which were sold to the government for \$23,950. The library is now the third largest in the world—being exceeded by the Bibliothèque Nationale and the British Museum.

The great building containing the Library of Congress is undoubtedly the most beautiful library building in the world. It was completed in 1897 and it is estimated will easily care for 7,000,000 v. The legislation which secured appropriation from the authorities for erecting this building was introduced and carried through by Senator D. W. Voorhees of Indiana.

The development of the Library of Congress as a national institution has been one of the most important library developments in America. There are many who have a dream of seeing the library take the name of the National library rather than its present title of Library of Congress, which has small significance, so far as the work of the institution is concerned.

The Danish-American association of Chicago has prepared a list of all material written in English on Denmark, its culture, history, natural resources, its social and economic relations. The list of books and papers, including translations from the Danish, covers nearly 1,000 titles. The collection of titles of other data was made by P. Vig, J. Christian Bay, Miss Ingrid Garnøe, of the Royal library of Copenhagen from the printed catalog of the Library of Congress and from material in private hands. The little volume of ninety-five pages under the title *Denmark in English and American literature* may be had from the Danish-American association of Chicago.

Chicago Midwinter Meetings

The Midwinter library meetings will be held as usual this year in Chicago. Dates are December 29 to 31. Headquarters will be at the Hotel La Salle where last year's meetings were held. The usual rates given librarians will apply and reservations should be made directly with the hotel.

The A. L. A. council will meet on Wednesday morning and Thursday morning, December 29 and 30. Some of the features will be papers on the "Economics of library architecture," by Dr C. W. Andrews; "Publicity methods for libraries," by W. H. Kerr; "The place of the library in the university," by Dr E. C. Richardson; and "The municipal reference library and the city library," by S. H. Ranck. All of these papers will be followed by discussion. There will be a number of committee reports given.

Both these sessions of the council will be "open meetings" to which all members of the association are invited.

The Executive Board will meet Wednesday evening, December 29.

The League of library commissions will meet Thursday afternoon, December 30, and Friday morning, December 31. Among the subjects to be discussed are "Commissions, aims and achievements," by J. I. Wyer; "Progress of rural library extension work in the United States and good laws for county and township extension," by Julia A. Robinson; "Library training for commission workers and the certification of librarians," by Miss Mary E. Downey; "The U. S. Bureau of Education reading courses and how to make them of most value in our state work," by M. S. Dudgeon; "Commission helps in book selection," by Henry N. Sanborn; and "The A. L. A. Booklist," by Miss May Massee. There will also be business and committee reports.

The School libraries section will hold two meetings, the first on Friday afternoon, December 31, and the second on the evening of the same day. The afternoon session will be devoted to a discussion of the problems of normal

and elementary school libraries, and the evening session to high school libraries. There will be no formal papers but practical problems will be discussed. The high school session will be in charge of Miss Mary E. Hall.

The University librarians will hold sessions on Friday, December 31, both morning and afternoon. Mr H. O. Severance, of the University of Missouri library, is chairman in charge of these round table meetings. The librarians of small colleges will hold round tables also on both Friday morning and Friday afternoon, December 31.

The Chicago library club will entertain visiting librarians on Thursday evening, December 30, and the Club wishes it distinctly understood that all librarians and their friends are cordially invited to be present.

All of the above meetings will be held at the Hotel La Salle. Those having charge of any meetings not here referred to should make arrangements for suitable meeting rooms either direct with the management of the Hotel La Salle, or through the secretary of the A. L. A.

Library Meetings

District of Columbia.—At the first meeting of the 1915-16 season of the District of Columbia library association, held on October 20, a committee consisting of H. H. B. Meyer, Dr George F. Bowerman, F. W. Ashley and C. C. Houghton was appointed to report at the next meeting on the advisability and method of procedure in forming a tri-state library association. If the committee reports favorably the librarians of Virginia, Maryland and possibly West Virginia will be invited to join with those of the District of Columbia to form such an association.

After a membership committee and a committee to nominate officers for the coming year were appointed, the association listened to Mr Ernest Ketch speak on the library interests as represented at the Panama-Pacific exposition. Dr George F. Bowerman and R. H. Johns-

ton followed Mr Kletch with delightful talks giving their impressions of the conferences at Berkeley.

C. C. HOUGHTON,
Secretary.

Indiana—The twenty-fourth annual meeting of the Indiana library association was held at Gary, on November 10-11, with 150 members present, together with many visitors. Among the distinguished guests were Miss Anna May Price, secretary of the Illinois library commission, Miss Florence Curtis, Library school of University of Illinois, Miss May Massee, editor of the *A. L. A. Booklist*, Mr. George B. Utley, secretary of the A. L. A. and Mrs Utley, Mr Henry E. Legler, Chicago public library, and Miss Mary Eileen Ahern, who is always loyal to I. L. A.

The Gary public library was practically turned over to the visitors, who found there many features of interest to occupy their time between sessions.

The exhibits were of special interest. C. Frank Norris of Gary had on display his collection of old book-plates as well as his original designs. The Indiana art club was represented by several excellent copies of old Japanese prints and landscapes. The Indiana library commission had a collection of the A. L. A. starred books for small libraries for 1914 and 1915 up to November. The libraries over the state doing rural extension work exhibited materials and devices useful in conducting this work. The Gary library showed the early history of Gary in a series of photographs, and also exhibited pictures of the sand dunes in northern Indiana. Miss McCollough sent for display, publicity posters which had been used in Evansville.

The first meeting, which was a business session, dealt with the reports of the various committees for the year, all of which showed progress. A report of special value was that made by Mr Hepburn, of the committee appointed to investigate pension funds for librarians. He said that there was but little information to be found on the subject. There had been no state

legislation on pensions for librarians. A few cities have obtained such legislation, but the sense of the committee was that this was not an opportune time to ask assistance from the state, and there is no demand for it from the librarians of the state.

Mr Sanborn's report on district meetings for the state showed a most satisfactory condition along these lines, since the district meetings are increasing in popularity and effectiveness.

On Wednesday afternoon, the president, Miss Jayne of Bluffton, in her address, struck the key-note of the meeting.

The development of rural extension

While all but 7 counties in the state boast at least one public library, the proportion of the citizens of these counties actually receiving library service is small. Usually its beneficent influence does not extend beyond the corporate limits of the town in which it is located; at best, only to the home township. What of the remaining territory? This is our field.

I have labored long, and agonized in spirit, in my effort to get at the heart of this matter of rural extension. As we go about in a prosperous farming community, we study the farm-stead. There is the barn; it is large and it is red, and the name of the place is blazoned on its walls. There is the silo, the donjon of this modern castle. These dominate the landscape. But nestled among a few trees, and likely to be overlooked, is the farm home. In the home are the children. The reason for the broad acres, the impressive barn, and the inevitable silo lies here. And herein is our concern.

To manipulate a farmer's purse strings it is often necessary to pull on the heart strings. If one jot more is to go on the tax duplicate, it is that Susie may have every advantage any other girl has, and that Johnny's "chances" may be greater than were those of his own boyhood days. While eagerly reading the market quotations on hogs, there may be, in the back of the farmer's head, the thought that

it takes a good deal of money to send a boy to school these days. To better living conditions in his own community is certainly, consciously or unconsciously, the purpose of forty-nine of the "fifty and more" taxpayers who sign a petition for library service. One farmer's wife voiced something of this when she said to me, "I told Joe to sign it; we don't want any more land, we want to live."

This matter of bringing real literature to all the people, is an old dream. It was back in the McClure libraries, the county and township libraries in Indiana. Perhaps modern conditions will make the dream come true. Material difficulties have played a large part in the failure of all effort in the past. When I hear librarians lament at the tax for gravel roads, I want to remind them that the roads had to come first. In Wells county, for instance, the virgin soil is a fine quality of black loam, excellent for growing corn, but in its native state, a bar to all travel. Wet black loam makes a very good quality of black mud. And so the roads had to come, that the automobile might come. Distance has been annihilated, and the much-maligned Ford has become the vehicle of progress. It only remains for us to learn how to use the telephone, the parcel post, and the interurban, and the improved highway in our business of bringing books to the door of all the people.

Details of our Indiana plan do not need exposition here. Suffice it to say that our machinery in action sometimes creaks, and frequently slips a cog. Our law, making the township the unit, tends to set a limit on the very thing we would make universal. The tendency is to stop with the home township. If this is overcome, and several townships obtain service, many independent units lead to an absence of stability. The number of small officials, each with ideas of his own, is multiplied. Jealousy and rivalry between townships sometimes spring up. Even in the matter of representation, in actual operation boards become unwieldy.

A county having eight townships, completely organized under the township law, would have 16 rural members. Add these to the usual seven from the town and the result is 23.

This matter of rural extension concerns us as an organization. These matters can only be brought to the attention of legislators through the efforts of library workers. We need the privilege of organizing under a larger unit, provision for a more perfect organization, and for more trained workers in the field.

We may hope for the acceptance of the free library idea as the free school idea has been accepted; the breaking down of the invisible barriers which separate town and country; the building of a community life which shall satisfy the growing demands of the oncoming generation, and make the farm home so alluring that the flat dweller shall take down the visiting card which reposes beside the electric bell, and write his name in large letters on a big red barn, out in the fields where he and his children may have life, and "life more abundantly."

J. J. Pettijohn of the Extension division of the University of Indiana, in his address on "The wider use of the lecture room" asked for the greater development of the popular lecture system, in connection with the libraries of Indiana. These libraries, he said presented the best in art, literature and social life and stimulate, by direct and indirect suggestions, a new interest in the best books. He asked the association to appoint a committee to cooperate with the Extension division of the university, which has equipment for aiding libraries and clubs in their lecture work. The committee appointed for this were: Miss Ethel McCollough, Miss Fisher and Mr Sanborn.

Under the heading of Some phases of rural extension, a number of suggestions were given.

Miss Joel, of Valparaiso, on the subject Arousing the interest of the people, said there are two points of interest to be stimulated: interest that pro-

duces a tax levy and the interest that justifies the tax levy. The first is to show the people that the library has facilities to help them to live and work better and is more than willing and ready to do its part. It must also arouse in them a desire to help themselves to use what the library has to offer. Sources of helpfulness in accomplishing these things are many—first, is the personal work of the library. There must be direct and sympathetic contact with the people. Participation in the social activities, attendance at meetings of every kind, even should there be no opportunity to talk, but to get in touch with individuals and a few citizens here and there may later bear fruit. Value of posters, sign cards, and exhibits cannot be over estimated. This material must be placed inside the building and outside and a far reaching outside. Almost any popular gathering will allow a display of posters. Recently, a number of cards made by the pupils of the mechanical department of the high school were posted in all the polling booths in the township. On the cards were printed the letters "You pay for it, why don't you use it?" and below this in smaller letters "Valparaiso Public Libraries." A copy of this card with hours, location and telephone number was used in the county telephone directory. It was also used in a number of public places and at all public gatherings. An exhibit at the county fair brought in great interest. Whether any direct results were seen or not, it is certain that a number of people who never thought of the library before were reminded that there is such a thing as a public library and will perhaps come later. If only a few people are made a little more thoughtful and a little happier, it will be worth while.

Miss Charni, of Brookville, said that the greatest difficulty in township extension work lies in the general indifference of the country school teachers. The next step is to demonstrate to the teacher that her share in library work

is not a negligible one. The technical part of book lending should be done by the library and not left to the teacher. A source of helpfulness is the county superintendent, who, if he is interested in the library, will bring teachersto it.

Miss Snipes, of Plainfield, said that the school is the best place to serve the country people, since the school is the social center. The Plainfield public library has five school stations to which books are sent every six weeks by auto. To meet the needs of the families not reached by the school, parcel post is used for book delivery. The library pays the outgoing postage and the borrowers pay the incoming. The telephone is a necessary part of rural library service. Orders and renewals are made over the phone. The assembly room of the library is used by the people for institutes, contests and exhibits.

Miss Diesse, of Noblesville, reported that in January when they began, the library had 282 rural patrons, which has increased to 500. It costs the tax payer of the township 20 cents a person a year for each library card now held in the township. Last year 3,540 books were circulated to township patrons at a cost to the township of an average of one-third of a cent for each circulation.

Mr Sanborn, in his report on the Progress of rural extension, showed by means of a map, centers of distribution. There are still 7 counties with no public libraries and 24 others in which the libraries established do not extend their branches beyond the town limit. The commission supplies 289 traveling library stations to the 884 townships without library branches. There are 101 towns serving 117 townships and 3 townships have township libraries. Almost without exception, the libraries best equipped to do rural extension work are not doing it, because the boards of control have not cared to have their number increased by township representatives who would have a voice in the management of the city library.

Mrs Mabel Dunlap Curry of Terre Haute closed the afternoon session with an address on "Democracy and culture." She said democracy is more than a vision of equality—it is a rule of living which insures the well-being of humanity. Every educational institution must stand two tests. Does it free the powers of each individual? Does it connect him vitally with the rest of life? The library is a form of service which is capable of wonderful extension. It has served the one-tenth of the population who have life most abundantly. The business of the rural extension movement is to reach the nine-tenths left out and may be looked upon in the light of a community investment. Where it has been most thoroughly perfected, it has proven itself a good social investment. Coöperation in the library brings coöperation in good roads, good fairs, good granges and good chautauquas. As a democratic movement, library extension must reflect nothing of the missionary spirit. It must not be superimposed on the community but must be an integral part of it. It must take its keynote from the needs of the people. Librarians figure mightily in this great cultural movement—not as autocrats, but as dispensers of life in its fullness. They need the wisdom of Solomon, the patience of Job and the gentleness of mothers.

An address on Wednesday evening by Mrs H. R. Burnett of Indianapolis, told of the work of the Library art club of Indiana. This club is the outgrowth of a demand for art exhibits. The State library commission gave \$50 to start the work. Exhibits came from every place by purchase, gift and loan until, at the present time, there are 31 exhibits already in the field, 10 exhibits ready for the circuit and a membership of 44 libraries. The libraries of the state join the club by paying dues according to the income of the library—\$1 for the library with an income of \$1,000, or less, and \$1 for every additional thousand dollars income. The

club promises to each library, 12 exhibits annually—an exhibit may remain three months in each library.

Dr. W. Dawson Johnston, of St. Paul, made the principal address of the evening on the New social spirit in library service.

A short summary of this excellent lecture is as follows:

The war does not indicate the end of culture but the imperfection of culture, the criticisms of culture which it has called forth do not demonstrate our neglect of the classics so much as they indicate our need of a literature of our own world and our own time.

The highest culture does not consist only in contact with the best that has been said and thought in the world that is past, but in contact with the best that is being said and done in our own world. The former type of culture is individualistic; the latter is social.

The war will demonstrate again that true culture does not belong to privileged individuals or to privileged nations but to all, and that educational institutions, and particularly libraries, must make greater efforts not only to satisfy the general needs of men but also to meet the special needs of each individual.

This new social spirit in library service is shown partly in the most characteristic activities of the library of today; its extension work in branches, industrial deposit stations, and kindred activities; in specialization of service, both in provision for more departments of service and in provision for more expert service; and in publicity through the newspaper, poster, circular letter, and otherwise.

It is shown also in the coöperation of other civic institutions and societies with the library in making additions to its collections or funds, in the appointment of library committees to assist the librarian in the selection of books, and in the publicity given to library activities, in society and club meetings, in their bulletins and announcements, in house organs.

On Thursday morning, the members of the association with a large number of visitors had the privilege of seeing the "Work, study and play system of Gary" actually in practice at the Emerson school. After visiting the departments of the school, the system was explained by Dr. Chadwick, who pointed out the difference between the Gary schools and the traditional schools.

Miss Peters, of Gary library, explained the work carried on between the library and the schools. All the children come regularly to the library either in classes or individually to browse around and get acquainted with the library or to do reference work. Instruction in the use of the library is given to classes from the first grade to the high school. High school pupils are given two weeks' instruction on classification, arrangement of books, use of catalog and indexes to periodicals. These lessons are followed by examinations which count in the pupil's English work. The library supplies all supplementary reading for class room libraries. Where the school has a library, the public library supplies the books and trained librarian; the school furnishes the room and equipment.

Mr G. B. Utley, secretary of the A. L. A., gave the greetings of the national body to the organization, extended a cordial welcome to the meetings of the A. L. A.

At the close of the session, visitors were taken through the city in automobiles lent for the occasion.

On Thursday afternoon, round-table discussions took up the time.

The College and reference section, in charge of Mr Arthur Cunningham, reported the following:

The difference in the organization and management of college and public libraries was introduced and briefly outlined by the chairman of the meeting, who said in part that to the lay mind all libraries looked alike, that there were nevertheless differences which were worth considering. The

functions of the two institutions are somewhat different, in that the college library is mainly reference in character and the public library cultural and recreational, though each is taking on aims and purposes of the other. The question was raised as to how far these varying functions should influence staff organization, selection and use of books, plans of buildings, etc.

Dr Brown pointed out some essential constitutional differences in staff organization, emphasizing the fact that cheaper help could be employed in the public than in the college library. This led to the discussion of student help which was advocated by Mr Hepburn and Mr Lindley as a necessity in their own libraries under present financial conditions, but was opposed by Mr Cunningham on the ground that the economy was only apparent, that it was expensive considering the kind of service rendered, that the ideal library staff should be composed only of college-bred people, with all the training and experience possible to obtain, that they should all be reference librarians in charge of some particular class or classes of books and do the mechanical and clerical work of the library as incidental, but valuable occupations leading to an acquaintance with books. The cataloging, however, should be done at one central point by specially trained catalogers.

Miss Gertrude Thiebaud and Miss Sue Beck discussed the kind of material that should be collected by the public library, while Professor Harlow Lindley spoke for the college library.

At the close of the meeting Dr Foik, librarian of the University of Notre Dame, presented the plans of the handsome new library that institution is about to construct at the cost of \$250,000. In general architectural appearance it will somewhat resemble the Boston public library. The stack will occupy the heart of the building and be surrounded by the reading rooms and administration departments.

Sarah L. Sturgis of Fort Wayne con-

ducted the Library assistants' round table.

Miss Scott said the requisites of a good assistant are: 1. A broad general knowledge of her work. 2. Resourcefulness. 3. Initiative in methods and work. 4. Ability to do team work. 5. A sense of humor.

Miss Wallace, Evansville, on the subject of "Staff meetings" said their value depended upon the librarian's conduct of them, and the frequency of the meetings. Their purpose is to talk over plans, prospects and problems, to get new ideas from other libraries, and to gather suggestions from the reading of the staff.

Miss Webb of Fort Wayne thought the best ways of "Advertising the children's room" were to visit the schools, attend teachers' meetings, send collections of books to the schools, distribute printed lists to children and others interested, advertise special collections in newspapers, and have exhibits appropriate to the time and occasion.

Miss Baker of South Bend discussed "Human element in the desk assistant's work." She said that sympathy was one of the valuable assets of the assistant, that she should put herself in the borrower's place, and that she should use tact in dealing with the public.

Faith E. Smith of Chicago said there were three kinds of reading for librarian and assistants: books that will keep up their standards; books to develop brain power; enough new literature in order to keep the public informed of the contents of new books.

The round table of the trustees and librarians was conducted by Mrs Elizabeth Claypool Earl of Connersville. "Making a library budget" brought out many good business principles by Miss Wayne and others. "The book committee" resolves itself finally into the well-informed librarian as was brought out by Mrs Jamison and Miss Ticer. "The librarian's value in the community," according to Miss Ahern, depends on the equipment in education, culture, and business ideas of the librarian.

After the round tables, the final ses-

sion listened to an interesting illustrated lecture on the development of libraries of Norway by Mr Kildal, of Bergen. The libraries of Norway had a wonderful growth in the last ten years. There are now over 1,000 state supported libraries in which the circulation of books has doubled in the last 10 years. A central bureau has been formed to give the libraries advice and to keep them in touch with new methods and devices. American methods have been followed greatly in delivery stations, children's reading rooms, class rooms and collections for schools. Library inspectors were sent over the country to give lectures to stimulate interest in the work. A library association boasts of 600 members. A summer school in library science is also established.

Mr Harlow Lindley gave an interesting talk on what the Indiana Centennial celebration is to cover. The object is to arouse interest in Indiana's past history, to awaken interest in Indiana of to-day and to enrich national patriotism. There will be a celebration in 1916, educational, historical and inspirational in its character. Three methods of accomplishing these are: the study of Indiana history in the schools of the state, encouragement of county and local celebrations and two state-wide celebrations—one at Corydon—the first capital—on May 13, 1916; the other in Indianapolis in the autumn of 1916. Assistance will be given in any of these things through the Indiana historical commission, department of Indiana history of the State library, department of history of the Indiana university and the State department of public instruction.

The association was invited to meet in Evansville, in 1917.

Resolutions of thanks for the hospitality of Gary were voted.

The following officers were elected: President, Margaret M. Colerick, Ft. Wayne; vice-president, Henry N. Sanborn, Indianapolis; secretary, Winifred F. Ticer, Huntington; treasurer, Mary H. Roberts, Indianapolis; A. L. A.

delegate Nannie W. Jayne.

The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$266.34 and a membership of 157.

Kansas—The fifteenth annual meeting of the Kansas library association was held in Wichita, October 26-28, 1915.

The first assemblage on Tuesday evening, at the library, afforded the guests an opportunity to inspect the new and very attractive building.

On Wednesday morning the session was called to order by the president, Mrs Belle Curry. The mayor, O. H. Bentley, extended a cordial welcome to the librarians in behalf of the city. The president's address followed, in which she spoke of the association, for what it stood, had accomplished, and what it might attain, and of the mission of the public library as an educational factor.

The business reports were read and approved.

An amendment to the constitution was adopted, whereby persons not in library work may retain an active membership.

The roll call, answered by "the most important event in my library during the past year," brought out the fact that all the "important events" tended toward progress.

On Wednesday afternoon, a county library system for Kansas was discussed by Irving R. Bundy of the Leavenworth public library and Willis H. Kerr, librarian of State normal school library, Emporia.

Mr Bundy told of the development of the system in the various states in which it has been established, dwelling particularly upon the methods of California.

Mr Kerr told of its relation to the work and finances of Kansas public libraries. His deductions were drawn from a scheme of statistics based on information obtained from the libraries throughout the state as to population, assessed valuation, library levy, etc., of the various communities; thereby showing that from an economic standpoint all is not being accomplished under the present that might be under the county system. An animated discussion followed the presentation of the foregoing topics

and, on motion, a committee was appointed to investigate the situation in Kansas, prepare a legislative bill, and report at the next meeting.

Exhibits showing the methods and results of the California and New York county libraries were open to inspection during the meeting of the association.

The afternoon closed with an automobile ride, which included visits at Friends' university and Fairmount college.

At the Wednesday evening meeting, Dr A. M. Brodie of Wichita, an active worker in civic affairs, delivered an address, speaking on the relation of the library to the community and of the important position of the librarian as an educator. Miss Myrtle Gettys, a member of the Story tellers' league of America, and a teacher in the Wichita schools, gave her hearers a delightful treat in story telling.

The evening closed with the telling of an original fairy story by its author, Mr James L. King of Topeka.

At the Thursday morning business session the following officers were elected: President, Miss Hattie Osborne, Baldwin City; first vice-president, Mrs Belle Curry, Parsons; second vice-president, Miss Anna M. Shafer, Concordia; third vice-president, Miss Kathryn McLain, Hays; member-at-large, Mrs A. B. Ranney, Arkansas City; secretary, Julius Lucht, Wichita; treasurer, Irving R. Bundy, Leavenworth.

Arkansas City was selected as the meeting place for the 1916 meeting, and an invitation to invite the Oklahoma library association to meet in joint session with the Kansas library association was voted.

Miss Ruth Cowgill of the Kansas State historical society library, Topeka, told of the wealth of material to be found in this institution and of the manner in which it is made available to the public.

A round table discussion of library problems brought out many interesting and helpful suggestions.

The last session of the 1915 meeting convened in the high school auditorium.

Miss Hattie Osborne, librarian, Baker

university, Baldwin City, opened the discussion, "The library as a part of the educational system" with the topic, "The library and the college." She outlined the difference between the college and the public library, and of the responsibility that rests upon the librarian of an educational institution in supplying the satisfactory material to the student whom the teacher has inspired to seek for knowledge, and in giving to him that which is not only educational but cultural.

L. W. Mayberry, superintendent of the Wichita public schools, continued the subject with "The high school and the library" as his theme. He spoke of the mission of the high school to the student, as that of helping him to discover himself, and that his development must be continued through good reading, which it is the duty of the library to supply and teach him how to use. Mr Mayberry stated that a school teacher should be a member of every library board as a representative of the pupils.

Miss Amy Cowley, librarian, Public library, Hutchinson, closed the discussion with "The public library and the schools." She pointed out the fact that the public library is a component part of the public school system, although a much younger institution, and told of numerous ways in which the student can be interested in the library and made to realize its value. Miss Cowley expressed the opinion that the superintendent of public schools should be a member of the library board.

One point on which all three speakers laid emphasis was, that for efficient work it was absolutely necessary that a thorough understanding and coöperation exist between teacher and librarian.

ADELAIDE C. BOLMAR,
Secretary.

Massachusetts—The Massachusetts library club held its autumn meeting, on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the formation of the club, at Northfield. About 150 librarians and trustees of libraries in Massachusetts and adjoining states were in attendance at the conference. This was a union meeting

with the Western Massachusetts library club. The sessions began on Thursday evening, October 21, in the assembly hall of the Dickinson memorial library with a cordial address of welcome by Dr Norman P. Wood, president of the Board of trustees. J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr., president of the club, responded. Mr. William R. Moody at the request of President Coolidge spoke briefly on the educational work at Northfield which was the outward expression of Dwight L. Moody's own experience and sympathy.

William C. Lane, librarian of the Harvard college library, spoke on Early days of the Massachusetts library club. He sketched the history of the club from its origin at a meeting of librarians at the State library, Boston, on Oct. 22, 1890, through the formative years of the club with pleasant bits of personal reminiscences of individual members who had shared in the development of library work in the state. Anniversary letters were read from Mrs D. P. Corey, of Malden, Mr William E. Foster, librarian at Providence, R. I., Dr Herbert Putnam, librarian of Congress, Mr W. L. R. Gifford, librarian of the Mercantile library, St. Louis, Mr W. I. Fletcher, librarian emeritus at Amherst college, Mr S. S. Green, librarian emeritus at Worcester and Miss Lizzie A. Williams, formerly librarian at Malden. Mr R. R. Bowker, editor of the *Library Journal*, gave interesting reminiscences of his association with the club.

On Friday morning Miss Lucy B. Crain, chairman of the Committee of Five on children's work, submitted an informal report on the coöperative work between libraries and the schools. Miss Alice M. Jordan, children's librarian of the Boston public library, presented a paper on the subject "Coöperation between the public library and the high school."

Annie Carroll Moore, supervisor of work with children in the New York public library, was a speaker on the

topic "The love of literature in the every day life of a children's library."

At the afternoon session, conducted by the Western Massachusetts library club, Professor Carrie A. Harper, of Mount Holyoke college, spoke on Recurrent themes in literature, as represented by Tristram and Iseult and Cleopatra.

Following the paper by Professor Harper, a number of members of the club spoke informally on the topic "Books we read when we were boys and girls." At the conclusion of the afternoon session, the members of the club enjoyed an auto ride to Mt. Hermon as the guests of the trustees of the Dickinson memorial library, and Mr Moody, manager of The Northfield hotel.

The evening session on Friday opened with an address on Administration problems by Dr. Frank P. Hill, chief librarian of the Brooklyn public library. Dr Hill reminded his hearers that his own library work had commenced in Massachusetts and that his interest in library affairs in the state continued. His remarks dealt with 1) the relation between trustees and librarian; 2) the relations of members of the staff with each other, and 3) the relations between the staff and the public.

Following Dr Hill's paper a round-table on practical problems was conducted by Robert K. Shaw, librarian, Worcester public library.

The address of Pres Coolidge on Ideals vs. Technical efficiency, which was on the program for the opening session, was given at the meeting on Friday evening.

Mr Coolidge declared that on the technical side the object of public libraries seems to be more fully attained in this country than in any other but that he would set over against this technical efficiency three ideals. These ideals are 1) an appreciative outlook on books; 2) a sympathy with people and 3) disinterested public service.

The evening session concluded with an exhibition of stereopticon views, by Mr F. W. Faxon, of library people

taken at previous meetings of the American library association and the Massachusetts library club.

At the session on Saturday morning, Miss Florence E. Wheeler, librarian, Leominster public library, spoke on Relation of the work of the children's room to the needs of the community.

The informal round-table for those interested in children's work was conducted by Miss Alice G. Higgins, special assistant, children's room, Somerville public library. The discussion was concerned mostly with hours of opening, book purchase and the matter of arousing interest among younger readers.

FRANK H. WHITMORE,
Recorder.

Minnesota—The twenty-third annual meeting of the library association was held at Minnetonka, October 17. The largest registration in the history of the association—reached 125. The session opened by an address by Dr Dawson Johnston, librarian of St. Paul on Publicity coöperation. Dr Johnston said, in part:

Libraries will not be wholly free until they are free to everyone and they will not be free to everyone until they are known by everyone. Publicity is the first duty of public libraries as well as of other public institutions. It is not, however, the most important duty, and if properly organized should not involve the expenditure of much time on the part of the individual librarian.

The newspapers, the best avenue of publicity, are always ready to publish news of general interest, societies are anxious to coöperate with library authorities in making known the special resources of the library, and business men are glad to assist in those departments which relate to their respective lines of business.

The most important form of publicity is that devoted to the description of the best books in the library on topics of current interest. In this, coöperation between librarians is not only very desirable but quite possible because it involves the description of books which

are common to all libraries. Librarians must interest themselves in civic affairs, must collect information regarding city publications, and information regarding the city's resources. It is furthermore the duty of librarians to promote better business through furnishing the best literature on advertising and business.

The library must embrace in its life all the citizens of the community, which is the end of all library publicity. To do this, it must have the coöperation of all citizens.

An address was also made by Miss Lutie Stearns on The library and war and peace. Miss Stearns said that war as a destructive force has ever been the arch enemy of art, science and literature and other great constructive forces. Librarians may champion the arts of peace by displaying a peace flag, securing peace publications for the reading table; securing peace lectures and the celebration of Peace day; story hours should be used for stories of heroes and heroines of peace and histories purchased which emphasize the achievements of peace as much as the victories of war.

Prof W. P. Kirkwood, of the University of Minnesota, gave practical suggestions as to securing coöperation of the press, preparation of copy, and what constitutes news.

Flora F. Carr, of Mankato public library board gave an account of the exhibits held in the library during the year including the National child labor committee exhibit, collection of Jules Guerin's prints; paintings by George Inness, exhibits from art societies and other sources. Miss Carr contended the exhibits had been worth while and urged librarians to bring the things of value in art to the smaller towns.

Miss Graham, of Owatonna, told of publicity methods through the newspapers, the moving pictures, coöperating with the schools and of books on Bible study and Sunday School work sent on a tour to the different Sunday Schools for exhibits. Books were sent to factories, farmers' club rooms and

the Commercial club. An exhibit was made at the county fair. The proceedings of the city council were closely followed and lists of subjects under discussion were supplied. Miss Graham emphasized the value of timelessness: If a book doubles its circulation, it doubles its value to the library. Have books on hand at the right time and enough copies to meet the demand. This will deserve the good will of the public and decrease the number of people who do not use the library, because they have given up trying to find their particular quests in. Show window exhibits and exhibits at county fairs were discussed.

Miss Stearns gave an address on Is the public fulfilling its duty? She emphasized the quality of service as paramount, protested against irksome and unnecessary rules which keep the real owners of the books away from their property. The theme at the afternoon session was Coöperation between state departments and societies. State Forester Cox explained the purposes of Forestry service and gave a list of books which should be in every library.

Mr Gesell, of the League of municipalities, explained the value of that association. A plea was made for membership in the State art society, by Mrs Evans Huntington of Northfield. Mrs Thompson of Minneapolis urged an interest in the drama league and its activities.

There was a presentation on the lawn of Stratford Miracles—a play written for children by Miss Irene McKeehan, of Minneapolis, which won the first prize in the Minneapolis Drama league contest. A play was given by a group of children, as an example of simple Shakespeare celebration for children.

An address by Allen D. Albert, secretary of the Commercial and civic federation of Minnesota, pointed out the relation between the public library and social service.

On Friday morning the reading of a paper on Literary inspirations by Dr George Huntington was enjoyable.

This was followed by The small library as a center of book distribution by Miss Massee, editor of the *A. L. A. Booklist*. After pointing out that a good book store and could be a center of community and state life and a library as well, Miss Massee explained the methods and use of the Booklist.

A book symposium followed which was very enjoyable. At the closing session, the discussion of Scandinavian books, at which booklists were distributed, was of special interest. The question of library school training for Minnesota was thoroughly discussed while the need of a good school was emphasized and the consensus of opinion was that, until a library school can be properly supported and administered, it should not be attempted. Advanced classes for the summer school is all that will be undertaken at present.

The following officers were elected for the year: President, Frances E. Earhart, Duluth; vice-president, Eleanor Gladstone, Northfield; second vice-president, Audiene Graham, Owatonna; secretary-treasurer, Raymond L. Walkley. The retiring president, Dr Dawson Johnston, is the fifth member of the Executive board.

New York City—The first meeting of the Library club for the year was held October 14 at the house of the American society of civil engineers, with President F. W. Jenkins in the chair. There were 515 members and guests present. The occasion was the celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of the club. The speaker of the evening was Thomas Mott Osborne, warden of Sing Sing prison, who gave a most interesting address on Common sense in prison management.

Mr Osborne stated that the criminal was not a class by himself, as treated in the older books on penology, that he could not be studied like a polar bear behind a cage, and that the old prison system was a failure, because more than two-thirds of the prisoners in the state prisons had been there before. The duties of a warden are two-fold: first, keep-

ing the prisoners safe in the prison and second, trying to produce conditions that will cause them to leave the prison capable and desirous of living good, useful lives. Mr Osborne read statistics showing that under the new management, assaults and escapes had diminished and the net profits from the industrial department for the first eleven months of the year had increased 86 per cent.

A social hour followed the meeting.

ELEANOR H. FRICK, Secretary.

Ohio—The twenty-first annual meeting of the Ohio library association was held at Columbus, October 5-8 with 180 members present. After the address of welcome by Dr Warner responded to by Prof Root, C. B. Galbreath, librarian of the Ohio state library, gave a short talk indicating the assistance the librarians might receive through the various departments of the State library. Herbert Hirshberg, of the Public library, Toledo, presented the subject, "What the libraries expect from the state." "Cataloging as an asset" by W. W. Bishop, of the University of Michigan library, closed the evening's program. It was followed by a reception given by the staff of the Columbus public library.

At the business meeting, the legislative committee recommended legislation which shall first make possible an adequate maintenance for librarians, either within or without the Smith tax law; second, provide for library pensions; and third, provide for prompt distribution to the librarians of the state of all the publications of the state. Mr Vitz of Cleveland urged the publication of uniform bulletins of such nature as could be used by all libraries. Mr Brandenburg presented the emphatic need of official recognition for the library system in the educational policy and organization of the state. The report of membership recorded 65 members received during the year. The association now numbers 503 active members, 4 associate, 11 sustaining, 3 life, 10 club and 14 library members.

The following deaths were recorded:

Alice Searle, of Zanesville, Ellen Her-
vie, of Cincinnati, Julie Calvert, of To-
ledo and Hortense Fogelsong of Day-
ton.

Miss Tyler, chairman of the com-
mittee on library extension recom-
mended a re-districting of the state
into five library districts, meetings to
be held in the spring of 1916 in the
central library of each district, under
the supervision of a district chairman.
The recommendation was adopted.

Wednesday afternoon, the public
school library was visited. At the eve-
ning session, Dr Herbert Welch, Pres-
ident of Ohio Wesleyan university,
representing privately endowed schools
and universities, pointed out the sig-
nificance of the fact that one-fourteenth
of the men in *Who's Who in America*
were from Ohio, that the number of
colleges in Ohio and the number of
Ohio college students were about one-
fourteenth of the entire number in the
United States. President W. O. Thomp-
son, of the Ohio State University,
spoke for the state educational insti-
tutions.

Thursday afternoon a reception was
given on the campus of the Ohio State
University which was most enjoyable.

On Thursday evening, Sarah J. Cut-
ler of Marietta gave an interesting
paper on the Coonskin library—its
books and its founders. The address
was full of delightful reminiscences of
pioneer days in early Ohio. Miss Cut-
ler showed the original accession book
of the library and had numbers 1, 2
and 3 of its books. About 250 of the
original books of the library are in her
possession, Miss Cutler being a lineal
descendant of one of the founders.

An interesting address was given by
Miss Tyler on "The library and social
service." "The library art league and the
Ohio libraries" by Miss Comings was full
of interest. The fact was brought out
that a traveling collection of pictures can
be obtained through coöperation with the
Toledo, Cincinnati and Cleveland art
schools or library collections and teach-
ers' institutes. A committee was ap-
pointed to coöperate with the various art

interests of the state for the benefit of
Ohio libraries and other educational
agencies.

Miss Phail, of the National Cash Reg-
ister Company, of Dayton, gave an inter-
esting paper on five selling points which
applies to librarians and their patrons
as well as business: First, get the atten-
tion; second, create an interest; third,
form a desire; fourth, establish confi-
dence; fifth, close the sale.

Elizabeth Doren, of Dayton, in a talk
on Holiday exhibits and short cuts to
the circulation of books, gave a method
of quickly placing the books on the
shelves.

A motion by Miss Electra Doren was
carried providing for a committee of five
to be appointed to consider standardizing
the library service of the state, and to
make recommendations regarding the
same to the next annual meeting.

Officers for the coming year were
elected as follows: President, Laura
Smith, Cincinnati; vice-president, Her-
bert Hirschberg, Toledo; second vice-
president, Mathilda Light; third vice-
president, C. W. Reeder, Columbus; sec-
retary, Hermione Simon, Cleveland;
treasurer, Mary Wilder, Circleville.

Resolutions expressing thanks to the
hosts of the occasion, the officers of the
association, those participating in the pro-
gram and to the Columbus press were
passed.

A vote of sympathy in his recent be-
reavement was sent to Mr Washington
Porter of Cincinnati.

The college and reference libraries had
a special session where they discussed
matters relating especially to their own
work under the subjects New require-
ments in reference work for colleges and
universities; Special collections in Ohio
libraries and inter-library loans; The
new state printing law and distributions
of documents; The college library and
the county normal schools; The Ohio
state traveling library and the county
normal schools.

The large libraries had a meeting for
discussion of branch libraries in regard
to their organization, administration and
relation to the general library and adap-

tion. The question of charging fees for the auditorium was also interestingly discussed. The unification and harmonious work of a city system was considered. Organization and methods of the Cleveland system, illustrated, was given by Miss Eastman.

A paper by Miss Esther Noble on Poster publicity was illustrated by a large collection of poster pictures.

The small libraries had a section meeting. They discussed how to develop assistance from local material; Publicity for village libraries; Children's work where there are no children and no children's librarian; Work with high school pupils; Branch work with no branch buildings. These meetings were well attended, the discussions were helpful and a spirit of enthusiasm was significant.

There were interesting exhibits of material for inter-library loans, children's books and library supplies.

Pennsylvania—The first meeting of the Pennsylvania library club for the season of 1915-1916 was held on the evening of November 8, 1915, at the Pennsylvania museum and school of industrial art, with the president, Mr Morton, in the chair. Mr Ashhurst proposed the following resolution which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Pennsylvania library club has learned, with sincere regret, of the death on October 17, 1915, of the librarian emeritus of the Mercantile Library Company of Philadelphia, Mr John Edmands.

Mr Edmands, who had reached the great age of 95 years, and had been connected with the Mercantile library since 1856, was one of the founders of the Pennsylvania library club and its first president.

The club desires that this minute be entered on its records, and that a copy be sent to the family of Mr. Edmands.

Prof Leslie W. Miller, principal of the Pennsylvania museum and school of industrial art, gave a most interesting and instructive description of the work of the schools, illustrated with slides showing not only samples of the work done by the students, but also showing the classes at work. A most interesting feature of the evening was a tour of inspection after the lecture, with the unusual opportunity of actu-

ally seeing the classes at work. After having heard Mr Miller's description of the work of the potter's wheel, to see it in actual operation was a treat. The classes in applied design and wood carving, in interior decoration, etc. were most interesting. The club is much indebted to Mr Miller for a very profitable evening, and of the 80 members of the club who were present, there are a great many who will at least attempt in the future to do as Mr Miller says they try to do at the start of a student's life—encourage and stimulate the habit of trying to "think in materials." This thought alone explains the great success of the work done by the students.

A very hearty and sincere vote of thanks was extended to Mr Miller at the close of a thoroughly delightful evening.

JEAN E. GRAFFEN,
Secretary.

* * * * *

The fifteenth annual meeting of the Keystone State library association was held at Butler, Pa., October 21-23, 1915. The meeting was well attended, the register showing 51 libraries represented, and 106 names on the roll, though the actual attendance was greater than that.

The first session was a business session at which the reports of the treasurer and the various standing committees were received. At the close of the business meeting a merry half-hour was spent in hunting "The elusive librarian" in a game invented for the occasion to increase sociability and obviate introductions. The evening closed with very delicious refreshment provided by the Congress of women's clubs of Butler.

Children's reading was the topic of the second session, conducted by Miss Bogle, chief of the children's department, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh. It was treated from the standpoint of the home, the library, the school, and popular reading. Miss Ellis, librarian of the South Side branch, Pittsburgh, in "Children's reading and the family" emphasized the social importance of

the family, the need of fostering high ideals, and the libraries' duty in the present transitory state of low standards. In "Reading in the library," Miss Engle, chief of the department for children, Free library of Philadelphia, said that in the library, children read what they like, and from statistics that has been found to be chiefly fiction, then history, practical science and handybooks, literature, travel, and nature stories. Dr Davidson, superintendent of Pittsburgh schools, gave an interesting talk on reading and literature in schools, and Dr Robertson, director of University extension, University of Pittsburgh, in his talk on popular reading of children urged the gathering of statistics by age and book titles for a study of the best books for children from the child's point of view.

There was no session Friday afternoon, and various places of interest around Butler including the Country club and the barracks of Troop D, Pennsylvania state police, drew visitors. Several librarians with storytelling ability visited the local schools to have "story-hour" for the children. This innovation in library meetings was highly appreciated by the people of the town.

Friday evening, after addresses by Judge Reiber of Butler, and William H. Weisheit of the Boy Scouts, John Foster Carr, Secretary of the Immigration Publication Society, gave a lecture on the "Library and the foreigner." Mr Carr spoke of the immigrant as simply a workingman, in this country for "a job," and told of his need of English and correct information about this country and the American ideals, and of the work of the Immigration Publication Society toward supplying this need. The address was followed by very interesting lantern views of foreigners in libraries, in cities and in agricultural communities.

The last session was devoted to reference work in various special libraries, Miss Willard, reference librarian, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, presiding. Miss Shutterly described the

courses in reference work and library training given at the California state normal school, California, Pa. The work of the Legislative reference bureau of Pennsylvania, was presented by Miss Irma A. Watts, a member of the staff, and Mr Holmes of the Technology department, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, the "first municipal library to establish a department for special reference work in the field of pure and applied science," read a paper by Mr E. H. McClelland, the librarian, on the work of that department.

After discussion of the various papers, the question of getting up-to-date encyclopedias for little money was discussed very practically and helpfully, and with suggestions for the next year, a most enjoyable meeting was brought to a close.

HELEN D. SUBERS,

South Carolina—At the invitation of Mr R. M. Kennedy and Miss Elizabeth D. English, the librarian and the assistant of the University of South Carolina library, some of the librarians of South Carolina met at the university, October 27, and reorganized the South Carolina library association. An encouragingly large number of librarians and friends interested in the work were present. Plans were made enlisting all the librarians in the state in the association. The following officers were elected: President, R. M. Kennedy; vice-president, Katherine B. Trescott, Clemson College library; treasurer, A. S. Salley, Jr., South Carolina historical commission; secretary, Louise McMaster, Public library, Marion.

Norsk Bibliotheksforening has issued no. 1 of its *Smaaskrifter*, which contains a general survey of library activities in Norway. This excellent sketch opens with a deserved tribute to the activities of the late Haakon Nyhus, by A. Arnesen, and gives evidence of a live and buoyant library spirit in Norway. The library association of that geographically limited country now numbers about 400 members.

Library Schools

Carnegie library of Pittsburgh

Training school for children's librarians

Dr P. P. Claxton, United States commissioner of education lectured to the Training school, October 27, on the work of the Bureau of Education.

Emma Robinson Engle, chief of the children's department of the Free library of Philadelphia, lectured October 25 on Children's work in the Free library of Philadelphia.

The Director was in attendance upon the meeting of the Keystone State library association, held at Butler, Pa., October 21-23. One morning of the conference was devoted to a discussion of children's reading which was conducted by Miss Bogle.

Members of the junior class served as ushers at the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the East Liberty branch library, November 9.

During the Autumn term the following courses are scheduled: Classification, reference, book selection, story telling, library handwriting and printing, illustrated book lists and bulletin work, cataloging (senior), seminar for periodical review, Director's round-table, library work with schools.

The junior class have registered at the University of Pittsburgh for a course in Games and plays.

Celia Frost, special student, '13-14, has resigned her position of children's librarian in the Public library of Minneapolis, to accept the position of children's librarian of the Public library, Hibbing, Minn.

Harriet W. Leaf, '16, has been made substitute assistant in the children's department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Maude Imogene Shaw, '16, has accepted the position of children's librarian of the Public library, Flint, Michigan.

Dorothy Wilson, '16, has been appointed children's librarian in the Public library, Los Angeles, California.

New York public library

The School was fortunate in securing Dr A. E. Bostwick for an address,

on October 4, which was virtually a "message to those about to begin," concerning librarianship and the qualifications for it. Dr Bjerregaard spoke to the juniors in regard to the use of the reference room, and the Director and Mr Lydenberg gave them on separate occasions some account of the Library's history and of the reference department. On October 29, Mr Frederick W. Jenkins, librarian of the Russell Sage Foundation, spoke on "The library as a civic factor"; on November 3, Señora de Baralt of Havana, repeated her last year's lecture on "Spanish-American literature"; and on November 4, Mr Arne Kildal, of Bergen, Norway, gave an illustrated lecture on "Library work in Norway," meeting the School afterward at an informal reception. Dr Henry M. Leipziger spoke on "Public school extension" on November 8, and Miss Mary E. Hall on "High school library work," on the afternoon of November 10, meeting the students afterward.

Senior lectures to date have been as follows:

School and college course:

Marie A. Newberry. The normal school situation; Training in books in normal schools; Teachers' institutes; Bibliography of school libraries; Test.

Mary E. Hall. Survey of high school situation; Planning and equipment of the high school library; High school library's coöperation with departments; high school library's coöperation with the public library; Visits to high school libraries and reports to Miss Hall.

Dr. A. S. Root. Some problems of the college librarian; Training in books in the college library.

Advanced reference and cataloging course:

Catharine S. Tracey. History of printing (ten lectures).

Elizabeth C. Stevens. Historic book-binding (three lectures and test).

Henrietta Bartlett. Bibliography (four lectures and quiz).

Dr. A. S. Root. Training in books in the college library.

Administration course:

Frederick W. Jenkins. Relation of the library to civic institutions; Study of the community; Immigration; Housing; Child welfare activities. Industrial problems; Recreation; Education and treatment of defectives, delinquents and incorrigibles; Public health; Test.

Annie C. Moore. Selection of children's books (three lectures).
Children's librarians' course:

Frederick W. Jenkins. Study of community; Immigration; Child welfare activities; Industrial problems; Education and treatment of defectives, delinquents and incorrigibles; Test.

Annie C. Moore. Selection of children's books (five lectures).

Mary W. Plummer. Anthologies for children.

On the evening of October 30, the Alumni association gave a Hallowe'en party in honor of the entering class.

The students of both classes have been invited to attend the meetings of the New York library club, at the first of which Thomas Mott Osborne spoke on the reforms now being put into practice at Sing Sing prison.

Irene J. Gibson (jr. '15) was married on October 16 to Bryant McCampbell of St. Louis.

Dorothy G. Hoyt ('14) was married September 29 to Graham Brush of New York.

Gladys Young ('14) was married October 18 to Noël Leslie of Clacton-on-Sea, England.

Forrest Spaulding ('14) has edited a list called "Poets of yesterday," published by the New York public library.

New York state library

Visiting lecturers have been as follows:

Nov. 1, Arne Kildal, '07, librarian of the Bergens offentlige bibliotek, Bergen, Norway. Norwegian libraries. Mr Kildal's lecture was illustrated by a series of slides showing exterior and interior views of Norwegian libraries.

Nov. 6, Professor A. S. Root, librarian of Oberlin college. College library administration; a discussion of reading-room discipline, relations with the faculty and other points not covered in the ordinary publications on college library work.

The classes have effected the following organizations for the current school year:

Class of 1915. President, Amy Winslow; vice president, Ruth L. Brown; secretary-treasurer, Ethel A. Shields.

Class of 1916. President, Carl L.

Cannon; vice president, Christian R. Dick; secretary-treasurer, Roscoe L. Dunn.

The Library round table has organized for the year, with Helen M. Laws, '15, as president; Ruth L. Brown, '15, vice president, and Ruth Norton, '16, secretary-treasurer. The round table meets monthly for the discussion of current library topics. Examination of selected lists of the library publications currently received by the State library and the State library school is also one of the features. All regular students of the school are members and are expected to attend the meetings.

The seniors entertained the faculty and juniors at a camp supper at the home of Beulah Bailey ('14), Oct. 23. On Nov. 2, the students and faculty were the guests of Mr and Mrs Walter.

Through the courtesy of the Woman's club of Albany, the students of the school have received tickets to courses of lectures on modern European literature, given, under the auspices of the club, by Professor Nathaniel Schmidt of Cornell university and Professor William Lyon Phelps of Yale university.

The school collection has recently received a considerable number of gifts of library publications, administrative blanks and forms and the like. Among the largest gifts are those of Miss Harriet R. Peck, who has presented some excellent material from the collection of her father, the late A. L. Peck; a number of duplicates of reports and other publications given by the Wisconsin library school and a number of older forms and blanks, many of them now very scarce, given by Mr William Beer of the Howard memorial library, New Orleans.

Izella M. Dart, '15, has withdrawn from the school to become assistant in the Lake Erie College library, Painesville, Ohio.

Marguerite B. Haynes, '15, has rejoined the senior class.

Elza K. Carnegie, '10-'11, was married October 15 to Theron Banks Hoyt.

At the annual convocation of the University of the State of New York, held October 21-22, William F. Yust, '01, was elected a member of the Library council of the university.

Pratt institute

The reception for the entire student body of the institute at the beginning of the school year, was held on the library lawn, and the Library school students were asked to consider themselves as especially concerned in the hospitality to the other departments.

The usual reception given by the Graduates' association to the incoming library class was held on Wednesday evening, November 3, in the Art gallery. Twenty classes were represented in the attendance, the largest numbers being nine from the class of 1915 and five from the class of 1911.

Mr Arne Kildal, librarian of the Public library of Bergen, Norway, gave the students an illustrated lecture on library conditions in Norway, on November 5. Dr A. S. Root, librarian of Oberlin college, Ohio, talked to the students on November 9, about the course in bibliography he offers as an elective to the freshman class at Oberlin.

Two of the graduates, Miss Gladys M. Dixon of the Carnegie library at Pittsburgh and Miss Myrtle I. Roy of the Davenport library at Bath, N. Y., (both '12) spoke to the class about their work recently.

The students attended the first meeting of the New York library club and heard with great interest an account of conditions at Sing Sing by the warden, Thomas Mott Osborne.

The class organization resulted in the election of Miss Beulah G. Murray of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, as president, and Miss Evelyn J. Badger of San Antonio, Texas, as secretary and treasurer.

At the meeting of the Library chapter of the Pratt Institute neighborhood association, Miss Helen Crowe was made president and Miss Elin Lindgren, secretary-treasurer.

The marriage on October 23 of Miss Edith McHarg Steele, '00, to Howard

Edwards Gansworth is announced. Miss Steele has been for some years cataloger at the Silas Bronson library in Waterbury, Conn.

Mrs Helen Clarke Mathews, '03, has taken a cataloging position in the Western Reserve Historical Society library in Cleveland.

Louise M. Kirkpatrick, '06, announces her engagement to Elbridge F. Bryant of Waterbury, Conn., the marriage to take place on Christmas day.

Alexandrine La Tourette, '08, for some time branch librarian in the Seattle (Wash.) system, was married to Bernard Ford Hemp on September 15.

Estelle M. Campbell, '15, has received a permanent appointment to the staff of the cataloging department of Columbia university.

Portia M. Conkling, '15, who went to the Troy Public library in June as acting chief of the circulation department for six months, has been appointed to the position permanently.

Maud M. Pugsley, '14, has been made librarian of the library of the National Association of Manufacturers in New York.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,
Vice-director.

Simmons college

The first six weeks of the library economy course have been largely devoted to binding, printing, proofreading and editing. In connection with this study visits were made to the Riverside press, the Boston Museum of fine arts, and to Barnard's bindery. A small exhibit was displayed in the Library school room, and each student sewed and bound in red rope paper her copy of Miss Fellows' Cataloging rules.

In November, visits are scheduled for the Library Bureau in Cambridge, and the North End and East Boston branches of the Boston public library.

Miss Donnelly attended the North-field meeting of the Massachusetts library club, at which there was a goodly number of former Simmons girls who are now in Massachusetts libraries.

Miss Donnelly, Miss Hyde and Miss Hopkins attended sessions of the Eastern college librarians' association at Harvard, enjoying also the opportunity to see the Widener library.

Miss Mary Hall will address the school, December 13, on High school libraries.

The outside practice work is being done at present in the Girls' Latin school, the Social Service library and the Harvard library of landscape architecture. Some of the advanced students have had opportunities for paid work in cataloging for the owners of large private libraries.

The Library school collection is growing, is being weeded out, organized and added to, and in this the school has reason to be grateful to many of the neighboring libraries, especially to Brookline, Haverhill, Newton and the Social Service library, for books which illustrate points in cataloging and classification, for sample cards showing their cataloging, or for their waste Library of Congress cards which can be fitted into the plan for giving alphabetizing practice.

From the students who have gone out are coming back post cards of their library homes, which are of special interest. A vertical file is being started in the school room for "Simmonsiana," apart from the official publications, as an example of a "local history collection."

Positions

Dorothy Nunn, '11, resigned from the Salem public library to accept the position of reference librarian in the Cedar Rapids public library, Iowa.

Elizabeth Thurston, '13, has joined the staff of the New York public library.

Isabel Dunton, '07, is in the Hampton Institute library.

Alice Poor, '08-09, is to have charge of the Cottage Place Settlement library in Boston.

Jennie Frost, '14-15, has been cataloging a private library in Boston.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY,

Director.

Syracuse university

Mr George B. Utley, secretary of the A. L. A., addressed the students of the library school, October 6, on the subject, "The American Library Association." Mr Utley's talk was largely historical in character and was given much interest by personal details relating to members of the association.

Miss Elizabeth Thorne of the Library school faculty is chairman of the library section of the New York State teachers' association. She promises a program of unusual interest for the annual meeting of the association on November 23 at Rochester.

Miss Thorne attended the meeting of the New York State library association at Haines Falls, N. Y., and a few days later was present as one of the official representatives of Syracuse university at the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Vassar college and the installation of its new president.

Miss Elizabeth Smith of the Library school faculty recently conducted the freshman class on an inspection trip through the Syracuse public library, explaining briefly the salient features in its work and administration.

E. E. SPERRY,
Director.

Western Reserve university

A reception for the class of 1916 was given on the evening of October 18 in the rooms of the school by the Faculty. It was attended by graduates of the school and friends of the school in the Cleveland public library and Western Reserve university.

The students were in attendance at the meeting of the Library section of the Northeast Ohio teachers' association which met in Cleveland, October 22, and gained much from the discussion of the question of School libraries.

Organization of the class of 1916 has been effected and the following officers were elected: Adelaide C. Rood, president; Jane I. Kuhns, vice-president; Elizabeth Herrington, secretary-treas-

urer. At the meeting for organization the class of 1915 was represented by three of its members, one being the president of the class. In this way the traditions and spirit of the school are passed on and the new class profits by the experiences of previous classes.

The visit of Miss Lutie E. Stearns on November 2 was enjoyed with the usual zest by the students and her inspiring lecture on "The library spirit" gave stimulus and breadth to the ideals the students are forming of their new vocation.

Alumni news

Mrs Adaline C. Merrill, '08, has been made librarian of the library of Morris Knowles, Consulting engineer, Pittsburgh.

Ruth A. Hapgood, '08, Grade school librarian in the Cleveland public library, has been appointed librarian of the East Seventy-ninth Street branch.

Pauline Reich, '13, has resigned her position as first assistant of the Ninety-sixth Street branch of the New York public library to accept the librarianship of the West branch of the Cleveland public library.

Doris Burgey, '14, formerly assistant in the children's room of the Hamilton Fish Park branch of the New York public library has been made the librarian of the Hiram House branch of the Cleveland public library.

Mabel Miller, '14, was married in October to W. C. Condall of Seattle, Washington.

ALICE S. TYLER,
Director.

University of Wisconsin

The weeks since the last report of the school have been rich in the number of outside lectures. F. K. Mathiews, chief librarian of the Boy Scout library commission spoke on Reading for boys, October 27. After the lecture the class had opportunity to meet Mr Mathiews personally. W. W. Bishop, librarian of the University of Michigan, gave a stimulating lecture on Assets of cataloguing, October 28, and in the evening spoke delightfully on Rare books, telling the romantic history of many books. Miss

Virginia Cowper of the John Wanamaker Book Store, New York City, talked to the class on the following day on Book selling as a profession. During the same week H. H. Hilton of Ginn & Co. paid a visit to the school and talked briefly of the educational publishing business.

Of the regular lectures given annually the following have occurred in connection with different courses; Dr. McCarthy on the Legislative reference library; Dr. Quaife, superintendent of the Wisconsin Historical Society on Source material; Prof. Paxson, of the History department on How history is written and Prof. Fish of the History department on Evaluation of books in American history. The opportunity of hearing President Jordan of Leland Stanford University and Secretary McAdoo was offered at the general university convocation. The class was invited by the School of journalism to see a two reel film on the Making of a newspaper.

Eugenie Marshall Rainey, '09, has been in London since July with her husband, who is one of the major surgeons in a British base hospital.

Margaret Green, '11, librarian, Public library, Minot, N. Dak., visited the school in November.

Malvina C. Clausen, '12, became librarian of the Farnsworth public library, Oconto, Wis., on November 1. Miss Clausen took special studies in the University during the academic year, 1914-15.

Gertrude E. Aiken after organizing the Public library, Seymour, Ind., has been made librarian.

Gladys Andrews, '14, since graduation assistant librarian of the Superior public library has been elected librarian of the Stephenson Library, Marinette (Wis.), beginning November 15.

Earl H. Davis, Legislative reference course, '14, has entered the New York state library school.

Louise A. Schoenleber, '15, has received the appointment as assistant in charge of the literature room in the Milwaukee public library.

MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE.

News from the Field

East

The Public library at Bangor, Me., will receive \$100,000 through the will of the late Col. Luther Hills Pierce of Chicago, who was born in Maine.

Mrs W. I. Fletcher died at her home in Amherst, October 21. Mrs Fletcher is kindly remembered by many of the students of the summer library school which Mr Fletcher carried on for a number of years at Amherst.

The annual report of the Public library at Bristol, Conn., records the number of volumes in the library as 29,407; total number of books issued for home use, 109,423—an increase of 14% over the preceding year; number of children drawing books in the school; 12,110. A large number of prints and engravings have been mounted and framed with detachable backs for circulation through the school. Number of borrowers' cards, 4,245.

A valuable collection of autographed and rare books from the library of the late James T. Field, of Boston, has been presented to Dartmouth college library by the will of Mrs Field, who recently died. The collection consists of about 100 volumes and their chief interest lies in that they are presentation copies given to Mr Field by the authors themselves—some of them are first editions of which only a few copies remain. When it is remembered that Field and Osborne were the predecessors of the Houghton Mifflin Co., who published the works of the greatest American authors of the nineteenth century, some idea of the interest in the collection may be gained.

The report of the City library association at Springfield, Mass., records that the Memorial Square branch circulated more than 150,000 v. in its first year. Total library circulation, 798,209 v.; circulation per capita has risen from 2.6 v. in 1900 to 7.8 v. the past year; percentage of fiction in the main library was 53.8 per cent; circulation of pictures for

home use increased about 30 per cent and amounted to 40,386 pieces. Books in the library, 200,804; distributing agencies, 381—an increase of 18 in the year. Special attention was given to the work with foreigners; visits were made to the evening schools, naturalization classes and other clubs; circulars and lists in foreign languages were distributed through the foreign section of the city and notices inserted in the foreign papers. Primers and text books were supplied to classes studying English. Interpreters are needed to meet and assist foreigners using the library.

Weekly readings for the blind were arranged for the library and conducted by volunteer readers. Special instruction in the use of the libraries was given to the eighth and ninth grades and freshmen in the high schools. Exhibitions held each month in the art room were of special interest. Numerous special lists were printed for distribution. The demand for the monthly bulletin, which has been improved in form, has increased from 2200 to 3300 monthly.

Central Atlantic

Nettie Paletz, Syracuse, '15, has joined the staff of the Polytechnic institute, Troy, N. Y.

M. Irene Beatty, N. Y. State, '14-'15, has been appointed assistant in the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Herbert W. Denio, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '94, has gone to New York City to assist in cataloging the private library of Henry E. Huntington.

Mary E. Furbeck, N. Y. State, '16, has received an appointment as assistant in the Legislative reference section of the New York state library.

Robert M. McCurdy, B.L.S., N. Y. State, '03, has been appointed to assist in cataloging the private library of Henry E. Huntington, New York City.

George Watson Cole, N. Y. State, '88, has been appointed librarian of the private library of Henry E. Huntington of New York City.

Amy Allen, B.L.S., N. Y. State, '12, has resigned her position as head cata-

loger at the University of West Virginia library to join the staff of the Ohio state library as an organizer.

Helen C. James, N. Y. State, '15, has been appointed to succeed Elizabeth H. Thompson as assistant in the Book selection section of the New York state library.

Elizabeth H. Thompson, B.L.S., N. Y. State, '15, resigned her position in the Book selection section of the New York state library to go to Trinity College library, Hartford, Conn., as cataloger.

Leslie E. Bliss, B.L.S., N. Y. State, '13, has resigned his position with the Legislative reference section of the New York state library to assist in cataloging Henry E. Huntington's private library, New York City.

The report of the Library of the General theological seminary of New York city, records the number of volumes in the library as 59,691. Attention is called to the purchase during the summer of the best reproductions available of the oldest and best known biblical codices. A special gift was a collection embracing about 300 different issues of the American Book of Common Prayer. There were 8,504 readers in the library; loans, 7,054.

The annual report of the Pratt Institute free library records the number of books lent 221,825; cards in force, 10,072. Attendance in the reading room for the year was 30,554; in the reference department, 53,577; in the art reference department, 11,395; in the applied science room, 23,054; books issued from the children's room, 53,254; number of volumes added to the library, 5,933.

Miss Elizabeth B. Faucon, custodian of the reading room for the past 22 years was granted a leave of absence for rest and travel. Two other members, Anna McKenzie and Julia C. Sturgis, have also been with the library 25 years. The library enjoyed a visit from Miss Marie Shedlock, of London, as a story teller again this year.

Central

Mamie R. Martin, N. Y. State, '13-'14, has been appointed librarian of the Public library at Clinton, Ind.

Emily Robb has been elected librarian of the Public library of Charlotte, Mich.

Edith E. Grannis, N. Y. State, '14-'15, has been appointed librarian of the High school library at Buhl, Minn.

Izella M. Dart, N. Y. State, '16, has received an appointment as assistant in Lake Erie College library, Painesville, Ohio.

The annual report of the Public library of Centralia, Ill., records a circulation of 25,120 v., an increase of 1,233 over the previous year.

Gladys Andrews, formerly assistant librarian at Superior, Wis., has been elected librarian of the Stephenson public library, Marinette, Wis.

Alice Coy has been elected librarian of the Mechanical library of Cincinnati to succeed R. M. McCurdy. Miss Coy has had charge of a branch of the Cincinnati public library.

Emily K. Colwell, formerly connected with the Public library of Somerville, Mass., and later with the High school library at Troy, N. Y., has been elected to a position in the Ohio state library.

The University of Notre Dame, Ind., has broken ground for a new \$250,000 library. It will be built of Bedford stone in the style of the Renaissance. It is planned to hold 600,000 v. and be modern in every detail.

Amy Cowley, N. Y. State, '14, has resigned as librarian of the Public library of Hutchinson, Kansas, and will go to Minneapolis to take charge of the Traveling libraries department of the Minnesota Library Commission.

The last annual report of the St. Louis public library shows a year of increased activity and definite progress. The library contains 414,623 v. It has 100,717 active register users. Circulated 1,690,037 v. for home use of 2,051,367, includ-

ing supplementary reading for the schools. It has 248 persons employed.

The Public library of Janesville, Wis., celebrated its fiftieth anniversary the last week in October. Exhibitions of material, both old and new, were prepared and certain hours of the day were set aside for open house and the library was shown to the public who were interested.

Kate E. Dinsmoor, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '07, has resigned as head cataloger at the Kansas state library to become librarian of the Polytechnic institute of Kansas City with an auxiliary connection with the Public library as high school reference librarian serving on Saturdays and during vacation months.

The forty-first annual report of the Public library, Galesburg, Ill., records number of books, 46,025; circulation 100,100; reference use 66,268; total recorded use 166,368, a gain of 6,646 over last year. Number of card-holders 6,174, 3.5% of the population. Appropriation by the city \$8,000; expenditures for books, \$1,477.69; for periodicals, \$421.95; for binding, \$500.64; for salaries, \$3,782.74.

A new reference room was opened up, much larger and better equipped than the former room, resulting in a much greater patronage of that department.

The annual report of the Public library of Wausau, Wis., reports a circulation of 69,398 v., which is an increase of nearly 30% over the previous year. The music department lately opened, proved very popular with the public. The stereographs have had the largest circulation of anything in the library. Lists on the various courses in the public schools, for the teachers of the industrial training schools, on different colored paper, and postal cards containing library information were sent out to the public living in the city and using the library. The bird exhibit held in April brought several hundred visitors to the library daily. The circulation of books among

boys, but not girls, was greatly increased by the exhibit. Flowers have kept the rooms attractive throughout the year. Cards in force, 8,295 of which 1,359 were added during the year.

The annual report of the Public library of Cleveland, for 1914, shows an increased use of the library over that of any previous year, but a small increase in the numbers of agencies and number of volumes over the preceding year. The total issue of books for home use was 3,023,156 v., an increase of 13.2 per cent.; of these 31.9 per cent. was adult fiction and 2.5 per cent. less than 1913. Sociology headed the class list with 255,733 v., an increase of 8.5 per cent., general literature coming next with 131,846 v. The use in these classes is stimulated by the large number of clubs served. Fifty-six clubs were registered at the library in 1914. The library circulation shows an increased demand in the drama. The circulation of books in twenty foreign languages was 8.1 per cent. of the total circulation. Foreign accessions to the library were reduced on account of the failure to receive foreign shipments because of the war. The reorganization of the main library into divisions by subjects has increased both library use and home use by students of books in the fields of sociology, religion, technology and art. Registered borrowers' cards, 163,418; books on the shelves, 519,519; number of agencies for the distribution of books, 560. The station circulated 114,043 to department stores, factories, telephone stations, institutions, clubs and engine houses.

South

Mary L. Towles, librarian of the Public library of Henderson, Ky., died November 14.

Miss Inez Mortland, for a number of years librarian of the University of Louisiana, was married recently to Kirby S. White, of Forney, Tex., where they will reside.

Marie Batman, Mary Foley, Mary E. Durning and Mrs. Marr Thompson, who completed the apprentice course and sub-

stituted one year in the Public library, at Louisville, Ky., have been made regular members of the staff of that library.

The annual report of the Public library of Raton, N. M., records the receipts, \$4007; expenditures, salaries and janitor services, \$1443; books, periodicals and binding, \$594; number of books in the library, 4605; circulation, 16,709, of which one-third is from the juvenile department. Special work has been done with the children in the schools.

Miss Ophelia A. Parrish, for 12 years librarian of the Kirksville state normal school, died October 30 at Kirksville, Mo. Miss Parrish had been in ill-health for some months but her death was unexpected. She had been a teacher for a number of years before becoming librarian and her appreciation of the needs of students of the normal school made her an invaluable help in the library.

Patrons of the Public library of Birmingham, Ala., are now being taught how to use the library in regular classes conducted by the reference librarian each Wednesday morning at eleven o'clock. The class is attracting women of all sorts, but no men, so far.

Talks on How to use the library were given during October to 17 women's clubs including more than 400 women. Outlines of the talk were distributed for reference, and the practice work necessary to make such a talk of real value is being given individually as occasion offers and in groups on Wednesday mornings.

At the annual Cotton Palace exhibition held at Waco, Tex., last month, the Public library, instead of having a separate booth, put placards with book-lists in the various departments throughout the exhibition. Dog owners were invited to make use of the books on dogs; in power booth, books on electricity; in the automobile section, lists of automobile troubles and how to remedy them; in the Child welfare exhibit, placard entitled Library babies are bet-

ter babies, was followed by list of books on care and feeding of babies; in the agricultural building, various devices for calling attention to books, were used. To quote from the Waco notice, "one can not visit any department of the Cotton Palace without being reminded that the public library is alive to the needs of the community and is prepared to satisfy these needs."

The Rotary club of Louisville celebrated a library day, September 15, by having the librarian and a number of the members of the Public library board make addresses setting out the advantages and opportunities offered by the library service of the city of Louisville. The guests of honor were: Gov McCreary, Ex-Gov Wilson, Ex-Senator Beckman, with eight members of the library board.

The report of the Public library at St. Joseph, Mo., records the number of readers, 20,197—being about 25 per cent of the entire population and an increase within the past five years of more than 320 per cent. The reference work has been greatly increased, the reference material has been brought together and an information desk established. The work with the schools shows an increase of the use of 3,245 books from the collection of 1,350 books supplied to seven schools. The total circulation of the juvenile department, including the school collections, was 65,839 v.

West

The Omaha public library has established its first high school branch on the first floor of the high school building. The board of education supplies the library room furnished, pays the salary of the librarian and provides all strictly reference books. The library board buys the books for circulation, attends to all details of cataloging and preparing books for the shelves. The library also attends to the matter of transportation. The library is under the management of the city librarian with Miss Zora Shields, formerly of the department of English of the high

school, as librarian. The branch was opened at the beginning of the school year and already has made a record of usefulness that is most satisfying.

The annual report of the Public library of Salt Lake City reports 56,921 books in the library with a circulation, including two branches, of 255,898 v.

The important feature of the work for the year was the opening of a new branch library, the Sprague branch, in the "Sugar House" district. This branch opened with 2536 books, and issued 1000 membership cards in two months. It was named in honor of the librarian Miss Joanna H. Sprague.

Readings for the blind were held at the main library three times a week during the year, with classes in raised type and typewriting once a week. Classes from the High school visited the library regularly for instruction in use of magazine indexes and catalog.

There are now 240 sets in the circulating picture collection, with increasing demand for them from schools and clubs.

Collections of books were placed in eleven of the city schools, Y. W. C. A., Neighborhood house, and in the playgrounds during the season.

Pacific Coast

The Public library of Tacoma, Wash., has been granted a levy of fifty-nine-hundredths mills for library purposes—an increase from fifty-hundredths mills. All other city departments were cut.

The twenty-first annual report of the A. K. Smiley public library, at Redlands, Cal., shows a circulation of 115,423 v. by 7,779 card holders with 27,759 v. on the shelves. Expenditures, \$10,255; receipts, \$10,683. The Redlands material in the library has been thoroughly organized and has a card catalog.

A feature of the Saturday afternoon story hour has been the hike or tramp taken every fourth Saturday by the older boys. Out of "Tramp Saturday" grew the "Story-hour hiker's book" and "Hiker's shelf." In the Story-hour hiker's book are kept a record of the

story of the tramps, map of the route taken, pressed specimens of flowers found on the tramp and a series of camera pictures telling the story; also a list of the trampers. On the Hiker's shelf are various curios found during the tramps.

Foreign

Ragnhild Retvedt, N. Y. State, '14-'15, has returned to Trondhjem, Norway, to become an assistant in the Norges Tekniske Hiskole.

Hans G. Hvistendahl, N. Y. State, '12-'13, has been appointed library assistant in the Statistiske central bureau of Kristiania, Norway. Since July 1913, Mr Hvistendahl has been connected with the *Bergens offentlige bibliotek*.

The annual report of the reference library of Manchester, England, records a decrease in the use of the library due to the reduction in the number of hours open and the withdrawal from civil life of many thousands of young men. The erection of the new building has necessarily been postponed. Three new district libraries have been opened and vigorously used. Many of the staff of the library having gone into the army, their places have been filled with temporary assistants. Parts of the branch library buildings have been made available for the use of the military authorities in various ways. The registration of applications for relief has been done by the library assistants. The number of cardholders is 76,828; number of books consulted in the reference library, 406,664; number of books lent for home reading, 1,957,454. A number of exhibitions were held during the year.

FOR SALE—Decimal classification; fifth edition; in perfect condition with the additions and corrections to fifth, sixth and seventh editions. Price, \$2.50.

Also *Public Libraries* May-Dec., 1914 and Jan.-Dec., 1915. Price, \$2

A. L. A. Proceedings, 1913-14-15, \$1.

Address Mary Smith, 212 B. St., S. E., Washington, D. C.

te
rs
a-
st
lf
ne

5,
o
-

e,
s-
u
y
i-
-

e
s
y
f
n
g
e
d
f
,
-
n
-
f
y
f
s
-
e
-

-
a
o
.

4